www.saipantribune.com 50¢ Volume XVIII, Issue No. 151 **FRIDAY** MAY 30, 2008



OPINION METER

This week's poll:

With a new minimum wage hike taking effect this week. what impact do you think it will have on the **CNMI** economy in general?

Let your voice be heard! Go to www.saipantribune.com to cast your vote.

INSIDE



Body Challenge

Gold's Gym Saipan announced that it will be launching the CNMI's first-ever "Body Success Challenge," with more than \$6,000 in cash at stake.

LOCAL...Page 14

Train Collisions



Two commuter trains collided and derailed during the evening rush hour outside Boston on Wednesday.

NATION...Page 26



Damning Book

In a shocking turnabout, the press secretary most known for defending President Bush has produced a memoir damning of his old boss.

LIFE & STYLE...Page 32

Engines overheat, trigger islandwide outages. PAGE 3 Two teachers file complaint vs KES principal. PAGE 7

'Local rebates, refunds out soon'

By AGNES E. DONATO

axpayers can expect to receive their local refunds and rebates for 2007 in three months or less, according to the Department of Finance.

leasing "economic stimulus" payments from the federal government today. Approximately

The department will start re- 11,000 checks are expected to be in the mailboxes this week-

See LOCAL on Page 4

House lawyer: CUC rate change incorrect

By AGNES E. DONATO agnes donato@saipantribune.com

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. was wrong to put the new rates into effect on May 3, 2008,

according to a legal counsel for lawmakers.

House legal counsel Jose A. Bermudes said that CUC has the power to raise the fuel com-See HOUSE on Page 4

Some alien workers backed out from filing small claims

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com

Some alien workers who were advised by the Department of Labor to file small claims to col-

their complaints to their previ-See SOME on Page 4



PTSD cases jump 50 percent in '07

lect their administrative awards

went to court yesterday but soon backed out upon learning that it

will their responsibility to serve

WASHINGTON (AP)—The number of troops with new cases of post-traumatic stress disorder jumped by roughly 50 percent in See PTSD on Page 4

A U.S. soldier of the Explosive Ordnance Disposal team inspect munitions before destroying them on the southern outskirts of Karbala city, 80 kilometers (50 miles) south of Baghdad, Iraq, Wednesday, May 28, 2008.



FOR WANT OF A ROOF

JACQUELINE HERNANDEZ

A Carolinian Affairs Office staff works on the rooftop of a traditional Refaluwasch Utt or meetinghouse as part of the renovation project at the Chamolinian Cultural Village in Garapan.

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2 FRIDAY, MAY 30, 2008 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Local



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Christine P. Fitial with her two proud parents, Gov. Benigno R. Fitial and First Lady Josie P. Fitial. The photo was taken at a Marriott Hotel reception right after Fitial's graduation ceremony in San Diego, California.



Fitial returns from US trip

returned from a trip to the United States, where he attended his daughter's graduation ceremony in San Diego, California. Fitial, who returned with his wife and daughter last Wednesday, said attending his daughter's college graduation ceremony was among the most gratifying moments of his life.

"My daughter graduated last Sunday, May 25, from the University of San Diego with a bachelor's degree in English," said Fitial. "She also received

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial has just top honors in the English department for maintaining a 3.7 grade point average. My wife and I couldn't be happier about our daughter's successful graduation with honors."

> Christine Fitial also graduated from high school at the top of her class before attending the University of San Diego, a private Catholic University associated with more than 7,000 students. Christine Fitial graduated from Mount Carmel School, a private Catholic school, where her own father graduated in 1964.

According to the Governor, Christine Fitial plans to continue her studies by pursuing a master's degree in English and a professional degree in law.

While in the U.S., Governor Fitial was also pleased to attend the graduation ceremony for Christine Torres, the first female cadet from Saipan to graduate from the U.S. Coast Guard Service Academy.

"Christine is like my daughter," said Fitial. "She grew up with my daughter and they went See FITIAL on next page



Gov. Benigno R. Fitial poses with Christine Torres, the first female cadet from Saipan to graduate from the U.S. Coast Guard Service Academy, at her graduation ceremony.





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Engines overheat, trigger islandwide outages

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE

Overheating engines at Power Plant 1 in Lower Base triggered another islandwide outage yesterday on Saipan.

Commonwealth Utilities Corp. acting power division manager Gary P. Camacho told Saipan Tribune that the islandwide outages began at 11:43am.

Camacho said the restoration

process was immediately inititer system on engine No. 8 at ated and completed at 2:31pm.

At that time, Camacho added, the contingent load shedding schedule was reinstated until last night.

CUC Executive Director Antonio S. Muna said in a statement that the utility agency implemented the contingent load shedding at 8am when high temperatures caused the jacket cooling waPower Plant 1 to exceed its maximum capacity.

"This activated the protective devices which automatically shut down the unit. As a result, the power plant operators manually tripped Feeder 4 and Feeder 7 to compensate for the generation loss," Muna said.

Immediately after, engine No. 2 was also affected by the

high temperatures and this automatically shut down the engine, he said.

Because of the additional generation loss, the Kiya substation was under voltage and automatically tripped off, resulting in the islandwide power outages.

Last Jan. 28, delays in fuel delivery at two power plants on the island triggered sudden rotating outages throughout the island.

Alert neighbors help cop arrest suspected burglar

Alert neighbors helped a police officer arrest a man who was in the act of burglarizing a house in Koblerville last week.

George Aldan Aguon, 54, was apprehended for burglary and theft. He was served with an arrest warrant last Tuesday.

Detective Abraham C. Villagomez stated in his report that on May 23 at 12:25pm, the Department of Public Safety received a report of an ongoing burglary and theft incident at the residence of Won Hee Oh Kang in Koblerville.

When a female police officer responded to the scene, Isidro Cabrera Jr. flagged her down on the road. Cabrera Jr. told the officer to proceed to the back of Kang's house.

The female officer met Isidro Cabrera Sr. who was holding a bat near the entrance of the house.

Cabrera Sr. informed the officer that someone was inside the house.

The Cabreras and the officer

then surrounded the house. It was Cabrera Jr. who then held Aguon after he came out of the back door.

Aguon was found in possession two lighters, a wallet, a screw driver, a wrist watch, a comb, a mini wallet, and coins belonging to Kang's wife. (Ferdie de la Torre)

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FITIAL

From Page 2

to Mount Carmel School together; I was also very happy to attend her graduation at a U.S. service academy."

Torres graduated on May 21, 2008, with a Bachelor of Science degree in Government.

"It took me three tries to finally make it into the Academy and, after being active duty enlisted in the Coast Guard and attending the Naval Academy Preparatory School, I knew I was ready for the academic, physical, and emotional challenges that the Academy threw my way. I think graduation is a sign that I battled all three pretty well," said Torres.

Torres urged other CNMI students never to give up on their educational goals: "Never give up. Even a local girl from Saipan can run with the best and brightest students of the U.S. at a Federal Service Academy. If you want something bad enough - in my case,

a free college education, a guaranteed career after graduation, and the opportunity to serve the United States as a Coastie - you'll find a way to get it. So go for it."

At the Coast Guard graduation ceremony for Torres, Fitial met Vice President Richard Cheney, who was the keynote speaker for the event.

Fitial also met with U.S. Interior officials during his recent trip and is expected to disclose details of those meetings in the coming week. (PR)







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Lizama: I have a good chance at delegate post

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE

ferdie delatorre@saipantribune.com

Former Superior Court Associate Judge Juan T. Lizama has expressed confidence he will be voted as the CNMI's first delegate to the U.S. House of Representatives.

"I think I do have a good chance," said Lizama in an interview with Saipan Tribune.

He said that starting on the day when he officially declares his candidacy, he will be out there just like everybody else.

"But my campaign, I want to be very positive with my campaign," said Lizama, adding that he will run as an independent.

The Nov. 4, 2008 election, he said, is obviously one of the most important elections because of the delegate position.

"My purpose is a good purpose. And I hope that they will agree with me that their votes will go my way," said Lizama who stepped down from the bench last Saturday after 10 years of serving as an associate judge.

On talks that he is not qualified to run as the law requires candidates to retire or resign from government position six months prior to the election, Lizama said he has read the law and analyzed it.

"I am comfortable with my thought and my position right now that I would be running," he stressed.

In 2003, Lizama became the first judge in the CNMI to be re-

tained to the post.

LOCAL

From Page 1

Finance Secretary Eloy S. Inos said his department would next process advance payments of the child tax credit, and then payments of local tax refunds and rebates for 2007.

"We are looking at the latter part of July or the beginning of August," said Inos.

Press secretary Charles P. Reves Jr. said the payment for the local refunds and rebates will come from the "coverover" funds that the CNMI government had recovered from the U.S. government.

Toward the end of 2007, the Commonwealth reached a settlement with U.S. Department of Treasury on the dispute over federal taxes that the U.S. government failed to transfer—or "cover over"—to the local government. The CNMI received \$26.4 million from the settlement.

The administration has set the money aside for the payment of tax refunds and rebates, excluding it from the budget resources identified for government operations.

Reves expressed the governor's appreciation for the federal funds to be distributed to local taxpayers starting today. He said the governor is grateful to the U.S. Congress and President Bush for including the commonwealth and the territories in the economic stimulus package bill.

"This could not have come at a more convenient time," Reyes said, citing the skyrocketing prices of fuel and power.

The federal rebates range up to \$600 for an individual and \$1,200 for a couple. Families

explained to them the conse-

quences of filing small claims

without serving the complaints

amount for us. I can buy sardines

and rice with that amount," one

The four were among the 371

abandoned workers of Sako

Corp. who were awarded \$500

each in contractual damages

through an administrative order

issued by Labor administrative

hearing officer Maya B. Kara

Since Kara issued the order,

The four are among 800

workers who forwarded to fed-

eral ombudsman Jim Benedetto

their administrative orders rep-

resenting a total amount of \$6.1

million in unpaid wages and

They said they went to Sug-

ar King Park's Roundhouse

last Wednesday because their

names were included in Labor's

announcement telling them to

They rushed to the court yes-

terday because Labor personnel

instructed them to file the small

they said they never got any of

"Twenty dollars is a big

to the defendants.

on Aug. 23, 2005.

damages.

show up.

the \$500 awarded them.

worker said.

with children will get \$300 per child. The law guarantees workers who earned at least \$3,000 in 2007 will receive at least a \$300 tax rebate.

The rebates would phase out gradually for single taxpayers whose adjusted gross incomes exceeds \$75,000 and for couples with incomes over \$150,000.

The rebates were the centerpiece of the U.S. government's \$168 billion economic stimulus package enacted in February and are designed to bolster consumer spending and stir the sluggish economy.

istrative order was issued three years ago.

The worker said some also thought that they would get another check from the settlement money in the class action against garment factories.

The other worker said some of them were at the Sugar King Park Wednesday at 9am and went back in the afternoon due to a power outage until they were finally given small claim packets shortly before 4pm.

The Superior Court is charging \$20 for small claims of \$500 or less; \$30 for \$501 to \$2,000; and \$40 for \$2,000 to \$3,000.

It was not clear yet how many alien workers filed small claims in court after Labor gave them the small claim packets last Wednesday.

But a court staff said one already paid \$20 to file small claims, one got back the payment, while others came with waivers to file without payment, to be signed by a judge.

Labor Enforcement Supervisor Jeffrey Camacho told Saipan Tribune on Wednesday that they were there at Sugar King Park Roundhouse to assist the workers and give them the small claim packets on how they can proceed to court and collect their administrative orders.

Camacho said they also pro vided the workers the names of bonding companies.

buildup, officials also extended

troops to get help even if it means they go to civilian therapists and don't report it to the military.

a group of defense writers.

MCS's Bellas accepted to nat'l honor society

By RIANNE PANGELINAN-BROWN

Mount Carmel High School student Victoria Bellas has joined the rest of the nation's finest high school students after being selected for full membership to the National Society of High School Scholars

Bellas is the daughter of lawyer Timothy H. Bellas and Frances Patricia Arriola.

Among Bellas' several achievements include placing first and second in the National Forensic League Regional Competitions and placing fourth in the 24th Annual Attorney General's Cup Speech Competition.

Bellas, who is a member of the 10th CNMI Youth Congress representing MCS, also earned the honor of being the co-saluta-

torian of the 2004-2005 school year at Saipan Community School.

Bellas completed a course of study as prescribed by the Junior Statesmen Foundation class of 2007 at Princeton.

As a member of the National Society of High School Scholars, she is now qualified to enjoy a wide variety of benefits, including scholarship opportunities, academic competitions, free events, member-only resources, publications, participation in programs offered by

HOUSE

the billing cycles.

ponent of electric rates, but the

new fuel rate should not have

been applied in the middle of

Bermudes noted that Pub-

lic Law 16-2, which allowed

for the rate increase, specifi-

cally provides that "any new

schedule of electrical fuel

rates shall not apply until

the subsequent monthly me-

ter reading date." In other

words, CUC cannot change

the rates in the middle of any

The new rates went into effect

on May 3, immediately after the

governor approved a measure

reversing a previous rates roll-

According to Bermudes, the

earliest date CUC should have

implemented the new rates is

May 8 for the first billing cycle,

May 15 for the second billing

cycle, May 22 for the fourth

billing cycle, and May 29 for the

Rep. Tina Sablan raised this

fourth and fifth billing cycles.

of the billing cycles.

back law.

From Page 1



Bellas

educational partners, online forums, personalized recognition items, and publicity honors.

The Society only recognizes the top scholars in the nation and invites only those who have achieved superior academic

Claes Nobel, NSHSS founder and chairman and a senior member of the Nobel Prize family, announced Bellas' selection.

"On behalf of NSHSS, I am honored to recognize the hard work, sacrifice, and commitment that Victoria has demonstrated to achieve this exceptional level of academic excellence," Nobel said in a statement.

He said that Bellas is now a member of a "unique" community of scholars, "a community that represents our very best hope for the future."

NSHSS president James Lewis said it is the group's vision to build a dynamic international organization that connects members with meaningful content, resources, and opportunities that would help students like Bellas achieve academic successes and enhance the skills and desires to have a positive impact on the global community.

SOME

From Page 1

ous employers.

"How can we serve our complaints to our previous employers when in fact they just shut down their factory, abandoned us, and left the CNMI?" one of the four workers who went to the Superior Court yesterday told Saipan Tribune.

The four used to work at the defunct Sako Garment Factory in San Antonio. One of them already paid \$20 at the Superior Court's cashier's office to file small claims against Sako and its president, Hee Kun Kyun, and vice-president Hyung Ki Min.

The four, however, decided not to pursue their filing when a court staff informed them that they would be responsible for serving the complaints to their previous employers.

Saipan Tribune observed the workers discussing with the court staff the procedures in filing small claims.

The court employee explained to them that their small claims will be taken off calendar if the court finds that the complainants failed to serve the defendants with the complaints.

The court staff said that once ne workers file the small claims, they could not get their filing fee back. The staff said they should

let somebody or their friends serve the complaints.

The workers reasoned out that it is impossible for them to serve the complaints because their previous employers had abandoned them a few years ago.

The workers said that filing the small claims is just a waste of their hard earned \$20. The one who already paid \$20 went back to the cashier's office accompanied by the three other workers to get back her money.

The four workers were among hundreds of people who showed up at the Sugar King Park's Roundhouse, claiming they are owed unpaid wages and damages by previous employers. While there, Labor personnel informed them to file small claims in court.

The workers told Saipan Tribune that the defunct Sako Corp. owed them \$500 each in contractual damages so they proceeded to the court to file small claims upon Labor's advice.

They said the small claims packets handed to them by Labor staff listed the lawyers who would entertain small claims.

The workers said they decided to proceed to Labor to file small claims by themselves because their claim is only \$500 each and that nothing will be left for them if they hire a lawyer.

They said they are very thankful to the court staff who

claims within 15 days. One worker said that some of them thought that during the

Wednesday meeting at Sugar King Park, Labor would hand out checks since Kara's admin-

tour lengths to 15 months from 12, another factor that caused

Officials have been encouraging

"We're trying very hard to encourage soldiers and families to seek care and to not have them feel in any way, shape or form that we're looking over their shoulder or that we're invading their privacy," Schoomaker told

point when CUC executive director Antonio Muna met with the House Committee on Public Utilities, Transportation, and Communications last week. Bermudes issued the legal opin-

ion at her request.

"It is, in my view, illegal for CUC to change rates in the middle of the billing cycle, as the agency is now attempting to do," she said. "The recently enacted Public Law 16-2 suspended only Section 2 of Public Law 15-94, which had artificially rolled back the utility rates to a flat 17.6 cents per kWh. The Legislature had not suspended Section 3 of PL 15-94, which had prohibited CUC from changing rates in the middle of the billing cycle."

Muna has not replied to an email asking for his comment at press time.

Under the new rate scale, customers must pay a total of 37.3 cents per kWh for the first 500 kWh of usage. The rate increases with consumption. Prior to May 2008, customers paid 17.6 cents per kWh for the first 1,000 kWh.

PTSD

From Page 1

2007 amid the military buildup in Iraq and increased violence there and in Afghanistan.

Records show roughly 40,000 troops have been diagnosed with the illness, also known as PTSD, since 2003. Officials believe that many more are likely keeping their illness a secret.

"I don't think right now we ... have good numbers," Army Surgeon General Eric Schoomaker said Tuesday.

Defense officials had not previously disclosed the number of PTSD cases from Iraq and Afghanistan.

Army statistics showed there were nearly 14,000 newly diagnosed cases across the services in 2007 compared with more than 9,500 new cases the previous year and 1,632 in 2003

Schoomaker attributed the big rise over the years partly to the fact that officials started an electronic record system in 2004 that captures more information, and to

the fact that as time goes on the people keeping records are more knowledgeable about the illness.

He also blamed increased exposure of troops to combat.

Factors increasing troop exposure to combat in 2007 included President Bush's troop buildup and the fact that 2007 was the most violent year in both conflicts.

More troops also were serving their second, third or fourth tours of duty-a factor mental health experts say dramatically increases stress. And in order to supply enough forces for the extra emotional strain.

DPL urged: Stop new public land leases

partment of Public Lands to hold off any new public land leases on Saipan while there are pending applications for village homesteads.

The resolution, adopted by the Upper House, said that new public land leases must be suspended so homestead applicants can be entertained.

The original resolution proposed to include Tinian and Rota but Sen. Paterno Hocog

consent of the municipal councils.

nated from and been approved by the Senate.

or examine any proposed action by DPL.

lands.

E. Donato)

The Senate has urged the De- asked that the two senatorial stead applicants are left in a districts be removed. Sen. Joseph Mendiola agreed, saying that a suspension of public land leases may jeopardize Tinian and Rota's efforts to attract developers to stir up their economies.

> There are approximately 4,000 homestead applicants waiting for their homestead lot assignments.

> "While DPL continues to lease public lands, home-

DPL opposes consulting with mayors

The Department of Public Lands has opposed a bill requiring DPL to consult the mayors before taking any action on public

Public Lands Secretary John S. Del Rosario said this step is redundant, as the DPL advisory board already includes municipal representative appointed by the respective mayors with the

"Redundancy is one of the main culprits in misunderstandings, confusion, and inefficiency within our government. Let's not add to it," Del Rosario commented on the bill that has origi-

But the House Committee on Natural Resources, which reviewed the bill, maintained that the proposal was necessary to ensure that each municipality is given the opportunity to review

"It is the committee's estimation that any matter regarding the disposition of public lands [is] worthy of lengthy deliberation," said the committee, headed by Rep. Ramon Tebuteb. (Agnes

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predicament of possibly not having homestead development to build upon and raise their families," the resolution

public land leases in the Third to unidentified land resources," Senatorial District by DPL is necessary in order to entertain the present outstanding homestead applicants who continue

it added.

DPL has two types of homestead programs—the village and agricultural homestead

programs. The village homestead program allows eligible applicants ample public land lot for the construction of a residential dwelling. The agricultural homestead program allows eligible applicants a sizable lot for the development and maintenance of farms crops. (Agnes E. Donato)

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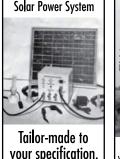
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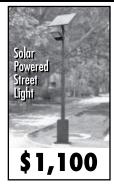
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Fitial says US stimulus checks welcomed



With the first batch of U.S. stimulus checks already being mailed, Gov. Benigno R. Fitial expressed gratitude to the U.S. Congress and the President of the United States for including the CNMI in America's economic stimulus program.

"I am grateful to the U.S. government for including the CNMI. The cash infusion from the U.S. government comes at just the right time for many families in our community," said Fitial. "The funds are needed to pay for expenses and provide an added boost to consumer spending."

Fitial also thanked Finance Secretary Eloy Inos and his staff for quickly processing the checks and complying with IRS requirements.

"I am very pleased with our Finance Department's work in getting these checks out expeditiously," said Fitial.

In his State of the Commonwealth Address on May 2, Fitial promised to start issuing federal economic stimulus checks by the end of May.

"I am pleased to make good on my promise, thanks to our fine staff at the Department of Finance" said Fitial.

Fitial had also pledged to continue releasing local tax refunds and rebates in a timely manner, which had previously not been

accomplished in several years.

Fitial secured some \$26 million in federal cover over funds late last year and began distributing tax refund and rebate checks for the 2006 tax year.

Fitial has directed the Secretary of Finance to earmark the collected federal cover over funds for the payment of local tax refunds and rebates.

"With the record spikes in fuel costs, I trust that these tax rebate and stimulus checks will provide a significant measure of financial relief to many struggling families and individuals," said the Governor. (PR)

DES principal defends yearend picnic at Micro Beach

By RIANNE PANGELINAN-BROWN rianne_pangelinan@saipantribune.com

The Dandan Elementary School has scheduled their schoolwide end-of-the-year picnic at the Micro Beach area to reward their students for all their hard work and a successful school year. However, its principal, Jonas M. Barcinas, is disappointed with a parent who has been campaigning against it.

The event, which was supposed to take close to 400 DES students to Micro Beach for the school's end-of-the-year picnic, turned sour when one parent called Barcinas expressing his concern about the risk factors

of every child that's supposed to go.

"He does not want his child to go but majority of our students will be going. A parent consent form was issued for our parents to sign whether they want their kids to participate or not," Barci-

nas said. "It's not mandatory but those that are not going or did not provide their parental consent will not be permitted to go for liability purpose."

Barcinas

Barcinas said the event was not a spur of the moment; it was talked about a number of times during PTA meetings and school leadership meetings.

"Where was he when we needed his view or opinion? This parent is a very nice person but I am not sure what's his point when I continued to assure him that we will have our students safeguarded by their teachers and parents that are going to be there and will monitor them every step of the way," Barcinas said.

He added that this parent has also gone us far as contacting several lawmakers such as a Rep. Ralph Torres, Rep. Joseph Reyes, Rep. Tina Sablan, and Education Commissioner David Borja to dissuade the DES principal from bringing the students to the beach.

"No one should tell me what to do unless it is unethical or dangerous for our children. Yes, truly, there is risk involved but I am the leader and I planned for this field trip," he argued.

"I am the principal of the school and if all my staff disagrees with this incentive then why didn't they say something? If all the parents disagree with bringing our kids to the beach, why didn't they say anything as well? Why only one of our parents, whom I truly know

very well and respected so much. I respect his opinion but there is nothing he can do. I take this seriously, that's why I have asked my staff that we be accountable for our kids because we do not want them to get hurt," said Barcinas.

said Barcinas.

Along with parents chaperoning the event, Barcinas said that Boating Safety personnel will be at the site to ensure water safety, several staff are CPR certified, students underwent a safety briefing, and a first aid kit will be readily available at the site.

"For three years we had our school go down to do the same celebration at Obyan. No parent has ever contested or argued about it. They're very happy that no one was injured at all because we did what we were supposed to do—safeguard our kids," the school principal said.

"I would like to let this parent know that we do not just plan for 400 some students without proper chaperones," he added.

On a lighter note, Barcinas said he hopes the students will have a great time and a safe one.



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Two teachers file complaint vs KES principal

By RIANNE PANGELINAN-BROWN rianne_pangelinan@saipantribunbe.com REPORTER

Two Highly Qualified Teachers at the Koblerville Elementary School have filed a grievance complaint with the Public School System against KES acting principal Eric Evangelista for "unlawful acts of discrimination, harassment, and retaliation."

Teachers April M. Purugganan, who is under the Delayed Entry Program of the U.S. Navy as an enlistee and will be deployed for his initial training this August 2008, and his wife Rizalina M. Purugganan claim that Evangelista pressured April to resign his post, in violation of the Uniformed Service Employment and Re-Employment Act.

According to a report April Purugganan prepared, he stated that he and his wife had informed Evangelista in advance that April Purugganan would take a military leave of absence during his training because he wants to continue working at PSS after his active duty.

After that, on May 22, 2008, April Purugganan claimed that Evangelista began pressuring him to turn in his resignation letter due to his military obligation.

April Purugganan consulted his wife, Rizalina Purugganan, regarding the matter who then advised him to call the U.S. Navy Recruitment Center in Guam to send Evangelista a copy of the military order.

However, Purugganan stated in his report that Evangelista insisted that he turn in his resignation and "threatened

him that he will be served a 90-day notice of non-renewal a resignation letter."

April Purugganan and his wife requested for an appointment after school but Evangelista allegedly refused to speak with either of them.

On May 30, 2008, April Purugganan and his wife received the 90-day notice of non-renewal of contracts.

Evangelista's letter to the respective couple stated that their employment contracts with PSS, "which expires on August 30, 2008, will not be renewed."

The Purugganan's have been on sick leave since Tuesday of last week.

"It's terrible. We can't eat, and we've even lost sleep over this. We're even taking medications just to alleviate some of this stress," Rizalina Purugganan said.

The couple was able to furnish illness certification slips signed by a Saipan Health Clinic's physician recommending "No Work."

Section 4311 of the Uniformed Service Employment and Re-Employment Act states that "a person who is a member of, applies to be a member of, performs, has performed, applies to perform, or has an obligation to perform service in a uniformed service shall not be denied initial employment, reemployment, retention in employment, promotion, or any benefit of employment by an employer on the basis of that membership, application for membership, performance of service, application for service,

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According to CNMI Guam of contract if he fails to submit Employment Support of the Guards and Reserves field committee director David Sablan Jr., he has received reports in the CNMI of violation of the USERRA law simply because many employers are not aware of it

> He said the USERRA law is needed because the nation has an all-volunteer force. Service members often worry about their civilian jobs or family back home, so that they cannot focus on their military mission. In such a situation, "no one will volunteer."

> "Congress intended for service members who live private lives to go into the service of our country and put their lives on the line. Congress intended for these individuals to have special privileges and rights different from other employees in our organization or companies,

privileges to the handicapped," Sablan said.

The Purugganans have sent letters to the Board of Education, the PSS legal counsel, the

PSS Human Resources, and the they cannot comment on the is-U.S. Navy Legal Counsel concerning the matter. They have vet to received any response from PSS officials.

PSS Human Resources said

sue just yet as it would still need to undergo investigation.

Evangelista could not be reached for comments as of press time.

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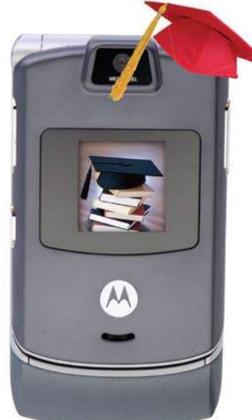
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Ogo recognized for years of services

By RIANNE PANGLEINAN-BROWN rianne_pangelinan@saipantribune.com REPORTER

The Rota Legislative Delegation has recognized Rota's longtime baseball umpire volunteer Jaoquin M. Ogo for his dedication and devotion in serving the residents of Rota and the CNMI and his lifelong commitment to the community.

Sen. Felix T. Mendiola, Sen. Paterno S. Hocog, Sen. Paul A Manglona, and Rep. Victor B. Hocog presented the 78-year-old Ogo with a commemorative resolution acknowledging his countless hours of volunteer services to the people of Rota.

According to one of his daughter, Natividad O. Barciof his time being a volunteer umpire.

"It was just something he loved to do. He did it for the first time in 1958, and since then he's always volunteered his time to take part in the games," Barcinas said.

Another one of his daughters, Maria O. Manglona, said that everytime Ogo volunteered his time as an umpire, he promoted sportsmanship, excellent attitude, and fair play.

"Everytime there's a game, everyone always liked it when he's the umpire. He made the game fun. On top of that, no one has ever challenged his calls," Manglona said.

According to the resolu-

nas, Ogo contributed much tion, Ogo is an "avid baseball enthusiast [and] contributed countless hours of his time to assist and volunteer as a baseball umpire."

One of his granddaughters, Julie Manglona, said Ogo has not umpired a game for almost a year because of his deteriorating health condition. However, he has said a number of times that he would love nothing more than to get up and volunteer

Ogo has been diagnosed with cancer of the digestive system.

The Rota Legislative Delegation passed Senate Local Bill 16-02 to name the newly built baseball field in Sinapalo, Rota as the "Jaoquin Mesngon Ogo Baseball Field" in Ogo's honor.

The Rota delegation stated that they find it fitting to name the baseball field after Ogo in recognition of his contributions to the people of Rota and to the local baseball program.

Ogo began government service from 1965 to 1966 when he worked for the Department of Agriculture. From 1972 to 1984, he served as Rota's only school bus driver, and from 1965 to 1975 he contributed his time as a baseball umpire. From 1985 to 1991, Ogo worked for former Sen. Benjamin T. Manglona where he provided various assistance and community services.



MAY 30, 2000

Amend sweeping ban on toy guns

Chief Public Defender Masood Karimipour has recommended that a proposed measure which seeks a sweeping a ban on the sale of toy guns in the market be limited only to those items that can be legitimately mistaken for a real gun. While he shares the belief that selling of toy guns should be regulated to ensure the safety of residents and police officers, Mr. Karimipour said the current definition is quite broad, making it a crime to possess all toys which resemble a real gun.

The makings of a Bagong Bayani

For Eli M. Arago, knowing what you want and finding the right way to get there is one of life's essentials. With this instilled in his mind since the tender age of seven, he knew he can never go wrong. Rising from among the lowest corporate positions, Mr. Arago is now bound for the Philippines to accept one of the country's most prestigious awards conferred to outstanding overseas Filipino workers by no more less the country's president.

CNMI marks Memorial Day

Local leaders, led by Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio, yesterday paid tribute to war heroes and veterans to mark Memorial Day during a ceremony held at the Civic Center in Susupe. Rear Admiral Tom S. Fellin, commander in chief of the U.S. Pacific Command Representative for Guam, CNMI, FSM and Palau and commander of the U.S. Naval Forces in the Marianas, attended the event.

MAY 30, 2001

Few students entering college

Financial problems force graduating high school students to delay their college plans, even if they are now more aware of the value of education in landing a good job. Marianas High School administrators have assessed this development among MHS students over the years, noting that if only economics permitted, most seniors would choose to pursue higher education to survive the highly-competitive job market.

CNMI sees need to nourish growth of small businesses

The Commonwealth Development Authority and the Northern Marianas College have agreed to synthesize efforts to facilitate the growth of economic activities in the CNMI through the increased participation of small businesses. Under the current setup, which is more of an informal partnership between the two agencies, NMC's Small Business Development Center provides the necessary counseling and consultation for hopeful local entrepreneurs while CDA provides the needed capital to start up a business.

Investment incentives law to go full blast next month

The Commonwealth Development Authority is now incorporating minor changes recommended by the Attorney General's Office to the implementing guidelines of the newly-enacted investment incentives law. CDA Board Chair John S. Tenorio said AG recommended some changes to the application forms recently forwarded by the government-controlled lending agency for review.

MAY 30, 2002

FAA reimburses additional airport security expenses

The Federal Aviation Administration has authorized the reimburse ment of \$1.119 million to the Commonwealth Ports Authority for the expenses it incurred in the implementation of new security measures at the airport. The new measures were carried out by the CPA in response to calls from the FAA and the United States Department of Transportation for increased security at all air transport facilities across the nation in light of the Sept. 11 terror attacks.

Clearing the path for telemedicine in the CNMI

Six years after the onset of an initiative that would allow rural hospitals to link up with their more advanced counterparts, the Commonwealth is still unable to fully access this program due to a provision in the Telecommunications Competition and Deregulation Act of 1996, which designates Saipan as an urban area. As such, long distance linkages between the CHC and health providers in Hawaii are prohibitive, cramping the capacity of the CHC to access the advanced resources of its Hawaii counterparts.



Dayao is the Valedictorian for Green Meadows

By JACQUELINE DELA CRUZ JUNIOR REPORTER

Arvin Dayao topped 28 other students from the K-5 division of the Green Meadow School during its 5th Annual Commencement Exercise last Friday at the Multi-Purpose.

Dayao, 5, was also awarded for being the most attentive, best in reading, leadership award,

Public hearing on Rota

The House Committee on Health, Education & Welfare will conduct a public hearing to receive testimonies for House Bill No. 16-9, HIS, titled, "Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation Act of 200" and House Bill No. 16-47, entitled, Smoke Free Air Act of 2008."

The public hearing is scheduled on Friday, June 6, at 6:30pm at the Rota Round House.

Copies of the bill may be obtained from the following places:

- Rota Superior Court, see Winefreda Dlg. Mendiola
- Request to the Office of Representative Ralph Dlg. Torres
- If you have access to an Internet, do a Google search on "cnmieg.gov.mp" and down-

perfect attendance, Primary Grade Forensic Competition winner, and Math Court winner.

Last year, when Dayao first attended an awards ceremony, he saw the numerous trophies but it was the biggest and tallest trophy that caught his eye. He asked his mother, Mirasol Dayao, who gets to have the big

■ Request for digital copies via email to joaquinvillagomez@gmail.com

Members of the general public are encouraged to submit written testimony on or before the public hearing. Oral testimony will be received during the public hearing. To submit written testimony prior to the public hearing, drop-off or fax to the Office of Representative Ralph DLG. (664-8926) or may be mailed to P.O.Box 500586 Saipan, MP 96950. You can also submit your digital copies to saipan pride@yahoo. com and joaquinpvillagomez@ gmail.com.

For additional information. contact the Office of Representative Ralph Dlg. Torres at 664-8923. (PR)

for the K5 valedictorian." Dayao wished that he would also get that same trophy when he graduates from K5.

"My wish came true because I always do my best to be the number one kid in the class. I will bring home the tallest and biggest trophy that I wanted since last year," he said.

Dayao said he will treasure his memories of the activities he participated outside the classroom, including when he went to World Resort for a day of swimming, PGFC, Math Court competitions, and the sports fest.

Dayao dreams to be a doctor in the future.

He would like to extend his gratitude to his mentors, teacher Mileth, teacher Moody and



Valedictorian

teacher Jehan, support staff, "tita Annie, tita Wilma, tito Dexter, and tito Bernard, our school principal, teacher Marilyn, president tita Mila, family, and most especially God."

Dustin Ross Salilin, 6, was the salutatorian for the K-5 division. He also earned the most



DUSTIN ROSS SALILIN Salutatorian

active award, Math Court winner, best in numbers, and citizenship award.

"All of our hard work and struggle throughout the year in kindergarten will at last come to an end. But as we have finally finish our tests, essays, all of us will face new struggles and will have to work even harder," said Salilin.

"We have been involved in many competitions with other schools. The one that meant most to me was the Math Court," he added.

He wants to expand his gratitude to his teacher, mom and dad for all the guidance, friendship, encouragement, and discipline.

The guest speaker during the graduation rites was Maribel Loste from the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs.

Principal Marilyn Divino states, "The students have been willing to challenge themselves and take risks. Such efforts have borne fruit as they have grown in skills and performance. Go kids, be a lifelong learners! Go forth unafraid and with our affection and best wishes!"













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EDITORIAL

Grounded

ity the state of air travel. Pity it, and get used to it.

Planes are packed. Flight delays and cancellations make a joke of airline schedules. And your child's Xbox video game system is more advanced than the air traffic control system that has been guiding aircraft in and out of increasingly crowded airspace since the 1950s. But a bill that would reauthorize the Federal Aviation Administration for another five years and provide a funding mechanism for a satellite-based navigation system is stalled in the Senate.

First, there was the tussle between the commercial airlines and the private plane owners who make up the general aviation category over how to finance the state-of-the-art air traffic control system, which is known as NextGen. The system would allow pilots and the control tower to see the exact location of aircraft, which would bring order to the skies by permitting takeoffs and landings more quickly and safely.

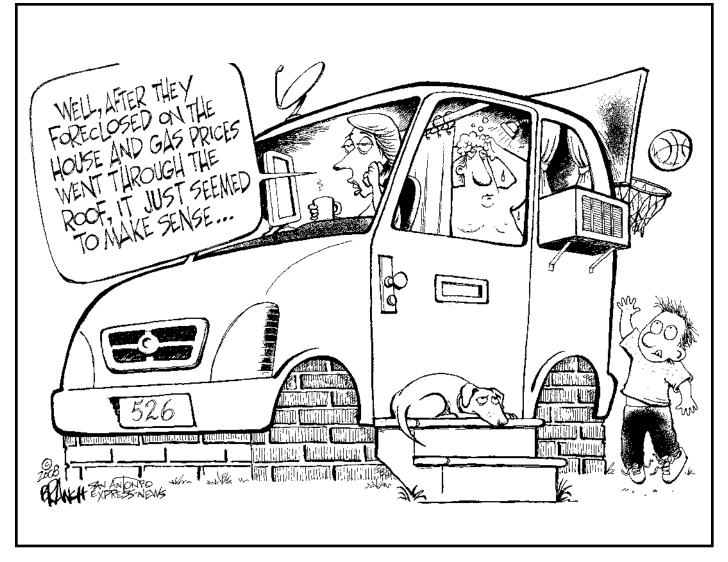
We agree with the FAA's push for a more equitable distribution of the cost-sharing burden. According to the Transportation Department, commercial aviation uses 73 percent of airspace but shoulders 97 percent of the costs. General aviation, meanwhile, gets away with paying 3 percent for its use of 16 percent of the system. The reauthorization bill took on the proposal from the Senate Finance Committee that increased the tax on general aviation jet fuel from 21.8 cents to 35.9 cents per gallon to raise \$260 million for the Airport and Airway Trust Fund — with no guarantee that the money will be spent on NextGen. Combined with revenue generated by switching the fractional jet ownership group (think time shares for private jets) from excise taxes to a flat 50-cents-per-gallon fuel tax, general aviation's share of the cost would be nudged up to 5 percent.

Then the bill became a legislative lint roller of non-aviation-related measures that raised the ire of Senate Republicans. There was a provision to help the cash balances of the Highway Trust Fund. Three were tax credit bonds for rail infrastructure. And there was a provision to double the per-barrel tax rate for oil spills. As a result, the reauthorization bill has been grounded since a cloture vote failed this month.

While Congress bickers over the FAA's future, the agency continues to make incremental improvements. The agency will begin testing NextGen by introducing the system at Daytona Beach, Fla., this summer. Last Friday, the FAA announced a proposal to auction a limited number of landing slots at John F. Kennedy and Newark Liberty International airports. Combined with a cap on the number of flights in and out of the New York metropolitan area, that could finally clear the congestion that has snarled air travel across the country. A third of the nation's flights zip through New York airspace, and most of the nation's flight delays can be traced to that bottleneck.

No doubt the current four-month extension of FAA authorization, which expires June 30, will be renewed. But this is no way to regulate air travel. By maintaining the funding levels of previous years, lawmakers are putting off the hard decisions that would bring the air traffic control system into the 21st century and bring relief to a long-suffering flying public.

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A hundred and fifty days in the making

By LIONEL AQUINO SANCHEZ JR. SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

his story begins with a simple game of dodge ball. One little hit from a ball was all it took to trigger a war inside my body that would change my life. A staphylococcuslaced clot ran through my bloodstream. Within days I had an extremely high fever. I lost my appetite and could not sleep. Then I found myself fighting just to catch my breath and soon, thereafter, I could not even walk. I was in trouble.

On Dec. 22, 2007, I fell asleep. A couple of months and thousands of miles of ocean had passed before I woke up. I was at the Kapiolani Medical Center. Christmas had come and gone. The New Year was not new anymore. Everything was different.

Each day that passed was filled with stories of what had happened during my long nap. Sad stories. Happy stories. My stories. Stories of how sick I had become. The efforts of the different medical teams that have given me new life. Most of all, stories of my family who were back home pulling for my recovery and waiting for me to return home.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank those who have been involved in my road to recovery. Should I forget anyone, I offer my apologies.

To the local healers, you have relieved me of my demons. Thank you all. To those who have contributed in their own special way, know that your concerns and contributions are greatly appreciated.

To Bishop Thomas Camacho, Fr. Isaac and Fr. Jesse, and the Mercedarianas at Maturana, thank you for all the prayers, Masses and blessings.

To the Intensive Care Unit of the Commonwealth Health Center, you are my heroes, my guardian angels without wings. Without you it would have been impossible to have written this letter. We went through two Code Blues, collapsed lungs, and death. We're still here. Dr. Letti Borja, Dr. Nguyen, and Dr. Hernandez, you have given me new life. I believe it was twice that you had to revive me. I could never repay you. Know that I am forever thankful for all that you have done.

To the CNMI Secretary of Public Health and Medical Referral family, without your concerns and efforts I would not have been able to find my way to recovery. Thank you for coordinating the evacuation and treatment in Hawaii. Nino Bihu in Kanat Tabla, "si yu'us ma'ase" for seeing that my evacuation pull through. To the CNMI LNO family in Honolulu, thanks for transporting me to and from the clinic and also for taking care of my parents and I while there.

To Dr. A. Naclerio and Nurse Whitney and members of the Military Medivac Team, you are my heroes and guarding angels with wings. Your quick response to my call of need opened the gates to

my recovery. From what I was told, I was a stubborn little patient. You had me on manual life support. Thank you for keeping up with me. Again, thanks for the ride.

To the medical staff at Kapiolani Medical Center, thank you for getting me back on my feet. Our experiences have been painful yet happy ones. To the team of surgeons that have ventured throughout my body, thank you. I am still in one piece. You're good. Those who were with me through therapy, it is nice to be back on my feet. I owe that to you. You have all given me the opportunity to be a kid again. I will never forget you.

To Uncle Eddie, Auntie Tina, Franklin, EJ, Auntie Anning, Auntie Alvie and my fellow Oahu families too numerous to list, thank you for taking time off your busy schedules to make time for me. You ensured my well-being and the enjoyment of my stay on Oahu. Auntie Alvie, the zoo was great. Auntie Anning, the strolls around the medical center were fun. Franklin and EJ, thanks for the laughs. To Auntie Chong and Mom Chilang, thank you for flying to be by my side upon learning of my condition. To my brother, Angel T. Guerrero, without all your encouragement I would probably still be lying in bed. You pushed me to get off my back and on my feet, here I am. Know that your families here at home are praying for your quick recovery and safe return. "DO NOT GIVE UP. DO NOT EVER GIVE UP." To the rest of the families that visited and assisted my parents and I during our stay in Hawaii, we are thankful for all your support and care. I pray the next time we meet will be under different circumstances. Aloha and mahalo.

And to my family, thank you for all the prayers during my time of need. This was the second holiday season we spent at the hospital. Thank you for being by my side every step of the way. You did not give up on me and gave me strength to continue fighting. I struggled, fought and fought. I won. WE WON. I look forward to more years of good times with you all. I love you. Austin and Naveah, big brother is back. I've missed you very, very much.

To the Lord Almighty, thank you for granting me life. To all my guardian angels, thank you for watching over me.

I have been told that being here is nothing short of a miracle. Maybe it is. The real miracle is seeing everyone gathered together on my behalf. You are my miracle. It was nice seeing everyone I love once again. Their faces brought me happiness. They were there to welcome me home. It felt as if I never left. There is much catching up to do. I'll get there, slowly but surely.

Lastly, I want to thank my Uncle Jay for helping me put my thoughts in writing. I know it was a pleasure and honor for you to help me.

This Thank You has been a hundred and fifty days in the making. My name is Lionel Aquino Sanchez, Jr. I am a 7-year-old kid from As Lito, Saipan. This is my story. It certainly feels good to be home.

The Saipan Tribune welcomes comments on any article, column, editorial, or topic that may be of interest to the public. Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number EDITORIAL POLICY of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The Saipan Tribune reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, CIC Centre, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Books are still books

any Saipan residents have learned to pack lightly in life. A large number of humble dwellings lack the space to warehouse lots of personal stuff. Seafarers and tropical adventurers (those who remain) are happier living out of a seabag than "swallowing the anchor" and getting bogged down with too many weighty things. And jet-setting professionals have long ago learned to digitize everything and anything.

So for various reasons, ranging from space constraints to traveling convenience, we've distilled our archives, documents, files, letters, newspaper clippings, magazine articles, financial records, music, movies, and photo albums into the weightless realm of digi-

But there is one glaring holdout: books.

So when somebody recently put an electronic book (OK, a book "reader," called the Sony Reader) into my hands I was mighty receptive to the concept. All I got was a brief hands-on session with it, but since I figure these aren't exactly common, you may not have used one, so I should offer you my initial impressions of the thing. So what you're getting here is cursory impression, not detailed

Question: Can the electronic book do for reading what the iPod did for listening?

Answer: Not from what I saw.

The Sony Reader (roughly \$270 in street price) is a bit bigger in profile than a typical paperback book, though it's thinner, and it feels solid and good in the hands. It's well-built, as you'd expect from a Sony. The text on the monochrome screen was very readable, and had none of the glare you'd associate with computers or other electronic displays.

And that's the good news: You can, indeed, read stuff on this device. But I'd like an electronic book that acts something like, well, a book, and this thing didn't.

For example, when I open a paperback book, I expect to see two pages of print, with roughly 35 to 43 lines of text per page. By contrast, the Sony Reader has just one screen (which is analogous to one page), so it's lost half the game already. Furthermore, it seemed to have only about 25 lines of text; perhaps that can be changed, I didn't get lesson in the thing, but my initial impression was that one eye-full of the Sony Reader was giving me only about 30 percent of the amount of viewable text I'd get with a conventional book. So I was constantly having to "turn" the page, and there was a distinctly noticeable lag as the new page loaded. Reading an entire book like that would be like eating a bowl of rice one grain at a time.

Meanwhile, much of the face of the thing isn't even screen, but is buttons and bezel.

So much for the hardware end of things. As for software, issues of content, Digital Rights Management, and so on loom big, daunting, and far from solved in the e-book world. But that's a topic for a different day.

I know that a lot of gadget enthusiasts enjoy the Sony Reader

By ED STEPHENS

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Ed's column runs on Fridays. Visit Ed at Saipan-Blog.com and TropicalEd.com.



and similar products such as the Amazon Kindle. They are reading devices, sure, but to my mind they don't really act like books. Just as a car is a car and a motorcycle is a motorcycle, things can have roughly similar purposes but entirely different essences (like, wow, dude, that's just so Existential).

So I'm waiting for some genius to re-discover the hinge, thus creating a two-screen, fold-open device that has a more bookish feel and displays bookish amounts of text per view. This genius will also put the buttons on the edge of the device, so that the screened surfaces are unencumbered with anything but text. Then, software constraints aside, we'll have a real e-book on our hands.

Until that happy day comes, I think that even the most fleet-footed among us will be keeping a foot in the weightiest medium of the analog age. For all its liberating magic, technology hasn't yet turned the page on Mr. Guttenberg.

Sure, take your iPod to Micro Beach, but if you want to read something, you'll probably be taking a book. Just like your grandfather did.

Green power coming to Saipan

't's been a year or two since the "Green Power" law was passed by the CNMI Legislature. Basically, the law allows for a concept called "net metering." There are two ways you can use -alternative (solar/wind) power. First, you can buy the power generating equipment—solar panels or windmills—and buy batteries that store the power you generate. Then you draw upon your stored power from the batteries to meet your power needs. There are a couple of difficulties with this. First, the batteries are really expensive, so cost goes up when you want to store your own power. Second, you have to generate enough power to meet your demands. This is the method you use to live "off the grid." You generate and store your own power.

The other method is "net metering." You buy the solar panels or windmills, but your house is still connected to the utility. The power you generate gets fed into the city power grid. If you don't generate enough power to meet your needs, you get the extra you need from the utility. If you produce more than you need, you feed the extra power into the grid for others to use, and the utility pays you for the power you send to other customers. The excess feeds through your meter and runs your meter backwards, thus the term "net metering".

With this method, you use the grid as your "storage" so you save the cost of batteries. Of course, without storing the power yourself, when the CUC power goes out, yours does too. This method is less expensive than the first, and it allows the utility to benefit from the extra power produced by the consumer.

The fact that we have this net metering law opens some huge possibilities for the consumer to bring down the power rates and also to contribute to power generation for other customers.

As many of you know, when a law passes, it can't really be put into action until regulations are written to define the details of the implementation of the law. The regulations for the net metering law have not been completed, so at this moment, none of us can benefit from the law. But, the good news is that the regulations are currently being drafted.

The regulations being drafted are a blend of regulations from a U.S. green power NGO and a few states. The CUC administration appears to be committed to making net metering happen, so that the private sector can help CUC meet its customers' needs costeffectively and reliably. Oil will soon become unaffordable to small markets like the CNMI. We will need the sun, the wind, the ocean

BETTER LIVING

By DAVID KHORRAM, M.D.

Special to the Saipan Tribune

David Khorram, MD is a board certified ophthalmologist and director of Marianas Eve Institute and the author of the book, World Peace, a Blind Wife, and Gecko Tails. Com-

ments and questions are welcome. Call 235-9090 or email him through www.MarianasEye.com, or leave comments at www.MarianasEye.blogspot.com. Copyright © 2008 David Khorram

and geothermal resources to power our lives.

I have put more information on some of the details of the regulation on my blog, and if you are interested in getting involved in the process, please look over some of the issues at www.MarianasEye. blogspot.com.

With the cost of oil rising, alternative energy sources become increasingly attractive. I expect that within a few weeks after the regulations are adopted, we'll see solar panels and windmills rising on the island

Letters to the Editor

Cats and dogs

The article that came out yesterday on Saipan Tribune and Marianas Variety about the rift between the Rota Municipal Council and the Rota Delegation regarding the Casino is very disappointing to me as a person who resides on Rota because instead of them planning ahead and initializing the process of this historical event, they are like cats and dogs fighting about who has the authority to make decisions on spending the money from the casino.

What money? At the rate we are going, there won't be any money to spend because prospective investors may not be interested to establish their gaming business on island because of all the battling and the people who are making decisions for the people of Rota Hello! The people have spoken. They want casinos on Rota. The island's leaders should quit their arguing and concentrate on making it happen. We are all suffering and will continue to suffer unless these child leaders wake up from their selfish fantasy and realize that they owe it to the people to set their egos aside and think about the man nam'se' (poor) people of Rota and get on with the program.

We are not going to continue to suffer Basta di en na' fanmamalao I taotao because of idiotic reasons such as who will make decisions on how the money will be used or who should benefit from it. If anything else, it should be our people who should decide how the money should be spent according to the importance and how the outcome will be for each situation.

But no, I am tired of seeing Rota and casino in the same sentence almost ternet access and it is most disconcerteveryday in our islands' newspapers. This is so embarrassing and not to mention tiring for other island readers to continue to witness how separated our people are with no unification and making no effort to sit down as a whole and communicate positively and make a sound decision that will enable Rota citizens the opportunity to at least try and get out of the black hole that our economy is in, because believe me, the more we waste our time in this nonsense the more the people are continuing to suffer.

Come on leaders, put your pride and stubbornness in your pocket. Make the effort to compromise with each other and come up with a positive solution to resolve this situation.

miyu Luta, Fan afa'maolek, fan ali'e ya en fanmama'tinas maolek na disesion para todu I tatao Luta siha (Stop embarrassing the people of Rota, please meet, discuss and make positive decisions for you people). If it is our island's problem, we do not need to make the entire world know our problem. Yes, the entire world has Ining for other countries to know that after the initiative was voted for by the people, we can't even get past the next stage because of the power struggle between our Rota elected leaders. Get over yourselves, you may think that you're fighting for the people but in reality, you are only trying to deepen your pockets with the expected benefits that will come with casino. Don't get me wrong, there's nothing wrong with that, but do not forget the patte (share) of all the people.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to vent my feelings on this subject.

Damian Toves

Primary election for delegate

We gave many fine candidates for Washington Delegate—perhaps too many. And there are likely to be more individual seeking to represent the CNMI in Congress.

Under the U.S. Public Law 110-229, the election will be based upon a plurality vote unless the Legislature enacts a law that provides for primary elections for the election of the Delegate. If the CNMI law provides for primaries, the election for Delegate will be by majority vote. Majority means 50 percent plus one.

The CNMI had about 11,000 voters last year in the general election. Let us say we end up with eight candidates for Washington Delegate. Just 1,500 votes or less could win the seat. The individual who flies off to Washington, grinning from ear to ear, to sit in a fancy office and speak for the CNMI will not have the support or backing of seven-eights of the voters.

The importance of the Washington Delegate cannot be denied. The CNMI needs an effective voice in Washington, not someone placed there because of the views or position accepted only by a small minority. A more effective and reflective voice can be determined by a majority vote.

The Legislature should enact legislation providing for primaries for the Delegate election.

Dick Pierce San Vicente, Saipan

Reflection on price of crude

OK, on Tuesday, crude dropped by \$4.17 per barrel, why did the prices on the pumps not drop also?

Could it be that the oil companies are going to use up the old stock from last month before dropping the prices (but not for raising the price)? Could it be that this price is for July delivery as all prices are based on "futures"? What happens when the price raises again, forget the low prices in between, huh!

What about CUC fuel surcharges? Why is there not an adjustment to reflect the charges in the up and down cost of fuel reflected in the monthly bill?

Could it be nobody at CUC can figure the actual charges (or able to do any math)?

John Mixson

San Jose, Tinian/Bicol, RP

12 FRIDAY, MAY 30, 2008 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Sattelite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian



Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. Southeast winds 10 to 15 mph.

▲85° **▼**76°



Mostly sunny with isolated showers. Southeast winds 10 to 15 mph.

▼75° ▲86°



Partly cloudy with isolated showers.

▲86° ▼76°



Partly cloudy with isolated showers.

▲86° ▼76°



Partly cloudy with isolated showers.

▲86° ▼76°

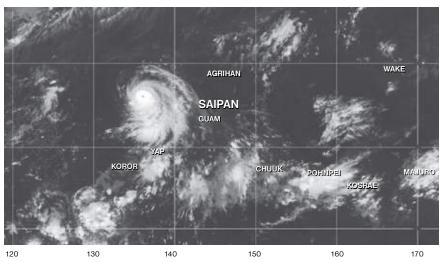
Micronesia

		_	_
Guam and Ro	ta Cloudy	▲ 85	▼ 76
Palau	Thunderstorms	▲ 85	▼77
Yap	Thunderstorms	▲ 85	▼ 77
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	\$88	▼ 78
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	▲ 82	▼ 74
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	▲ 87	▼ 76
Majuro	Thunderstorms	▲ 83	▼ 74

Around The Globe

Auckland	Mostly Sunny	▲ 59	▼51
Beijing	Sunny	▲ 84	▼ 62
Hong Kong	Thunderstorms	▲ 86	▼ 79
Honolulu	Mostly Sunny	▲ 83	▼ 74
London	Cloudy	▲ 68	₹58
Los Angeles	Cloudy	▲ 76	▼ 52
Manila	Showers	▲ 87	₹77
Melbourne	Partly Sunny	▲ 67	▼ 54
Miami	Thundershowers	88	₹77
New York	Mostly Sunny	▲ 76	▼ 60
Osaka	Mostly Cloudy	▲ 72	▼61
Paris	Showers	▲ 66	▼ 56
Pusan	Partly Sunny	▲ 76	₹54
Rome	Mostly Cloudy	▲ 75	▼57
Salem	Cloudy	▲ 70	₹48
San Francisco	Cloudy	▲ 63	▼ 52
Seoul	Mostly Sunny	▲ 70	▼53
Tokyo	Showers	▲ 69	▼ 58
Washington, Do	C Mostly Sunny	8 1	▼ 66

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, THURSDAY, MAY 29, 2008

Western North Pacific between Equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Typhoon Nakri (06W) is centered about 650 miles west of Saipan near 16N136E. Heavy rain and scattered thunderstorms are found within 100 miles of the center. Beyond that spiral rain bands are present south and southeast of the center in the area bounded by 14N135E to 15N140E to 12N138E to 11N135E back to 14N135E. For additional details. Refer to Joint Typhoon Warning Center warnings issued under WMO header WTPN31 PGTW and National Weather Service public advisories issued under WMO header WTPQ31 PGUM. Low-level convergence associated with a weak trough south of Yap is producing scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms within 100 miles of a line from 1N130E to 3N132E to 5N138E to 10N138E. This includes Yap but is southeast of Koror. Weak surface troughs embedded in convergent trade-wind flow are producing scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms west of Chuuk within 150 miles of a line from 5N142E to 8N149e and across Pohnpei and Kosrae between 3N and 7N from 154E to 165E. A trade-wind disturbance is generating scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms across the Marshall Islands in the area bounded by 5N167E to 10N172E to 6N174E to 6N180 to 3N180 to 3N174E back to 5N167E including Majuro. Scattered showers associated with an upper-level low centered near Minami Torishima at 24N154E are found within 125 miles of a line from 22N152E to 25N155E.

Tides				
Saipan Harbor				
3:12AM Today	High Tide:	1.9 Feet		
10:02AM Today	Low Tide:	0.5 Feet		
3:54PM Today	High Tide:	1.4 Feet		
9:29PM Today	Low Tide:	0.7 Feet		

Su	nrise/Suns	et
Today	5:46AM	6:43PM
Saturday	5:46AM	6:44PM
Sunday	5:46AM	6:44PM
Monday	5:46AM	6:44PM
Tuesday	5:46AM	6:45PM

Today	1:32AM	2:02PM
Saturday	2:12AM	2:58PM
Sunday	2:56AM	3:59PM
Monday	3:45AM	5:04PM
Tuesday	4:40AM	6:13PM

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The Saipan Tribune accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES ■ ISLAND SNAPSHOTS

- Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
- A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings are other activities by members of the business community. ■ SAMU'T SARI
- Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc. ■ TRÁVELOGUE
- Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

■ COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Announcements of upcoming activities of organiza tions, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies

■ CAMPUS BULLETIN

Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the ${\it Saipan \ Tribune}$ to publish the pictures
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months. \blacksquare For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

■ Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

235-8747, 235-2440, fax 235-3740.

the name of contact person, and a phone number. ■ Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

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- E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com or jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com
- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950 ■ Drop off: 2nd Floor, CIC Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan

6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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- tributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. ■ The Saipan Tribune will decide how often community
- announcements are going to be published.
 For Travelogue, the Saipan Tribune reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS

(6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com. **CUSTOMER SERVICE** For inquiries, purchase of back issues and complaints, call (670)

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ADVERTISING For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF APRIL 8, 2008

DEPARTURES ARRIVALS Saipan-Rota Rota-Saipan CO 9313 8:30am 9:05am 3,4,7 CO 9598 11:10am 11:45am 1,2,6 Saipan-Guam **Guam-Saipan** CO9317 4:00am 4:50am Daily CO 9316 2:30am 3:20am Daily CO9597 8:30am 9:20am 1,2,5,6 CO9596 7:00am 7:50am CO9313 8:30am 10:00am 3.4.7 via Rota CO9598 10:15am 11:45am 1.2.6 via Rota CO9600 10:45am 11:35am CO9601 12:30pm 1:20pm Daily 3,4,5,7 CO9603 3:30pm 4:20pm Daily CO9602 2:00pm 2:50pm

Saipan-Narita

CO9605 6:30pm

CO9599 9:30pm

NW 078 8:40am 2:00pm Daily via Nagoya NW 075 4:45pm 7:25pm Daily

7:20pm

10:20pm Daily

Daily

Narita-Saipan

CO9606 8:00pm 8:50pm

CO9604 5:00pm

NW 076 10:15am 2:50pm Daily NW 077 6:25pm 1:25am+1 Daily via Nagoya

5:50pm

Daily

Daily

Daily

Daily

6

and Yap

Saipan-Osaka

NW 083 4:20pm 7:10pm Daily

Osaka-Saipan NW 084 10:30am 3:05pm

Saipan-Nagoya Nagoya-Saipan NW 078 8:40am 11:25am Daily NW 077 9:00pm 1:25am+1 Daily

Saipan-Manila

CO 895 4:45nm 6:35nm 6 CO 895 6:45pm 8:35pm 3 Manila-Saipan CO 890 9:15am 2:55pm

CO 890 11:45am 5:35pm

OZ 605 9:00am 2:30pm 2,4,6,7

OZ 607 9:30pm 2:50am+1 3,4,6,7

OZ 603 7:40pm 1:10am+1 7

Saipan-Seoul

OZ 604 2:20am 6:00am 1 OZ 604 2:50am 6:30am 2.3.4.5.6.7 OZ 606 3:30pm 7:00pm 2,4,6,7

OZ 608 3:50am 7:20am 1,4,5,7

OZ 603 8:10pm 1:40am+1 1,2,3,4,5,6

Seoul-Saipan

Busan-Saipan

CO 894

Guam-Manila

Saipan-Busan

CO 891 6:00am 10:30am 3 via Yap and Koror CO 893 6:30am 8:05am 6 8:25am CO 893 10:00am 2.7 CO 893 5:50pm 9:10pm 5 via Koror CO 933 7:00pm 8:40pm Daily PR 111 6:00am 7:45am 1,2,4,6,7

11:20am 4:55pm 2,7 CO 894 7:45pm 1:20am+1 6 CO 892 9:45pm 6:30am+1 3 via Koror

Guanzhou-Saipan

CZ 3007 8:00pm 4:00am+1 1,5

Manila-Guam

CO 892 10:10pm 5:30am+1 5 via Koror CO 934 10:55pm 4:30am+1 Daily PR 110 10:15pm 4:00am+1 1,3,5,6,7

Saipan-Guanzhou CZ 3008 5:00am 8:00am 2,6

Guam-Hongkong CO 909 6:40pm 9:25pm 1,5

Hongkong-Guam CO 910 10:35pm 5:15am+1 1,5

Guam-Rota

CO 9598 10:15am 10:45am 1.2.6

Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CO: Continental; PR: Philippine Airlines; CZ: China Southern;

CO 9313 9:30am 10:00am 3.4.7

Rota-Guam

CA: Air China; NW: Northwest; JO: Japan Airlines; OZ: Asiana; MU: China Eastern ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD E	TA Frequ	ency
Guam-R	ota		
FRE 100	7:00am	7:30am	Daily
Rota-Sa	ipan		
FRE 100	7:50am	8:20am	Daily
Saipan-l	Rota		
FRE 200	9:00am	9:30am	Daily
Rota-Gu	am		
FRE 200	9:50am	10:15am	Daily
Guam-R			
FRE 300		4:30pm	Daily
Rota-Sa			
FRE 300	4:50pm	5:25pm	Daily
Saipan-l			
FRE 400	6:00pm	6:30pm	Daily
Rota-G			
FRE 400	6:45pm	7:15pm	Daily
Saipan-	Γinian		
FRE 101	6:45am	6:55am	Daily
FRE 103	7:30am	7:40am	Daily
FRE 105	8:00am	8:10am	Daily
FRE 107	8:40am	8:50am	Daily
FRE 109*	9:10am	9:20am	Daily
FRE 111*	10:45am	10:55am	Daily

FRE 113 11:40am 11:50am Daily FRE 115 1:00pm 1:10pm Daily 2:30pm 2:40pm FRE 117 FRE 119 4:00pm 4:10pm Daily FRE 121 4:40pm 4:50pm Daily 5:40pm 5:50pm FRE 123 Daily FRF 125 * 6:00pm 6:10pm Daily Tinian-Saipan w/ connecting

ETA Frequenc

flights to Rota or Guam**

FRE 102 7:05am 7:15am Daily FRE 104 7:50am 8:00am Daily FRE 106** 8:20am 8:30am Daily FRE 108** 9:00am 9:10am Daily FRE 110 10:00am 10:10am Daily 11:05am 11:15am Daily FRF 112 Daily FRE 114 12:00pm 12:10pm 1:30pm 1:40pm Daily FRE 116 FRE 118 2:50pm 3:00pm Daily FRE 120** 4:20pm 4:30pm Dailv FRE 122* 5:00pm 5:10pm Daily FRE 124 6:05pm 6:15pm Daily FRE 126 6:20pm 6:30pm Daily

NMI CRIME **STOPPERS** Anonymous tips can now be submitted

through the following: ■ Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone

- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

\$25K OK'd for NMC Tinian students' transfer

ed \$25,000 for college students from Tinian who have transferred to the Saipan campus of the Northern Marianas College.

Acting Gov. Timothy P. Villagomez signed House Local Bill 16-8 into law on Friday.

"The administration fully supports this measure because it ing for all qualified students from Tinian who are attending Northern Marianas College in Saipan," Villagomez said.

The \$25,000 funds came from Tinian's poker license fees. Tinian charges local poker fess amounting to \$4,000 per machine.

dent to provide the Tinian Legislative Delegation and the Department of Finance a detailed report of the fund after it has been spent.

NMC stopped offering credit courses at the Tinian and Rota sites on Oct. 8, 2007. The suspension followed a determinaservices on both campuses are not equal to that on Saipan.

It is not clear how many students were transferred from Tinian to Saipan.

Currently, only federal programs are still available on the Tinian and Rota campuses. These federal programs include

basic education, educational talent search, and other professional development workshops that focus on vocational and professional training.

In January 2008, the CN-MI's only institution for higher learning was placed on

sion and education service, adult lege has up to October 2008 to come up with reasons why it should retain its accreditation. In January 2009, the accrediting commission will render their decision whether the college should continue to operate or close it down. (Agnes E. Donato)





Hwang Kyungrok, also known as Champ, right, and Chally No at the Flair.

Bartending champs are guests in tomorrow's contest

From the Flair Bar, two special guests will have a 10-minute exhibition performance at the Taste of the Marianas during the Marianas Bartenders Cocktail Competition tomorrow night.

Hwang Kyungrok, also known as Champ, is the owner of The Flair and is well known for his consummate skill in spinning and juggling bottles and for mixing drinks. He has been bartender since

"We can have an exhibition using five bottles at the most," said Champ.

Champ was ranked third in the 2004 Gold Shake Cup and a 2005 Bar Wars pro-round champion.

Chally No, a long time friend of Champ, is the Flair's other bartender, joining the bar in December 2007.

Chally is a 2007 Hollywood 2nd place Bartenders Cocktail Competition in Guam and also 2007 Korea Bartenders Cocktail competition champion.

Lito Espino, event organizer, invited them to the bartending competition as special guests. (Jacqueline Dela Cruz)



The New 2008 Kia Rio





The Rio comes standard with class-leading safety features, including six airbags, impact-absorbing steering column, front and rear crumple zones and side-impact door beams. And, best of all, you'll get outstanding







The Award-Winning Sedona







The island's most affordable 7-passenger mini van is available now. The Sedona is designed to be safer, roomier and packed with a wealth of style, luxury and convenience features to get you and your family from one adventure to the next. Sedona comes standard with six strategicly placed airbags positioned throughout the vehicle to give you and your family peace of mind.



MODELS CLEARANCE 2007 STOCK # NISSAN STOCK # COLOR KIA COLOR PRICE PRICE Versa HB #7L360734 \$15,990.00 #76292370 \$12,995.00 Blue Rio White \$15,990.00 Versa S #7L398849 White Sportage #77354358 Jade \$17,695.00 Frontier SE #7C408903 Silver \$26,990.00 Sorento #65602982 \$18,995.00 Green **FORD** STOCK # COLOR HONDA STOCK # COLOR PRICE **PRICE** #7PA31119 White \$16,990.00 #7S031086 Silver \$14,995.00 Ranger \$16,495.00 White Fusion #7R114053 White \$19,990.00 Fit Sport #7S031103 Civic DX Escape #7KB29539 White \$19,990.00 #7L061948 White \$16,995.00 \$29,990,00 F-150 #6NB05745 White \$21,990.00 #6H566625 Silver Ridgeline



SHOWROOM HOURS: MON. – FRI. 8 AM – 6 PM • SAT. 8 AM - 12 NOON TEL. 234-5562

*All vehicles finance at 11.34% A.P.R. for 60 months with 20% downpaymer



Gold's Gym launches Body Success Challenge

yesterday that it will be launching the CNMI's first-ever "Body Success Challenge," and more than \$6,000 in cash and prizes will be awarded to participants who can lose the most weight and/or make the most amazing body transformation over a three-month period this summer. There will be a free Body Success Challenge information session at Gold's Gym, located at Garapan Central Park, this Saturday morning, May 31, at 10am, and all members of the community who are interested in entering the competition are welcome to attend.

"The Body Success Challenge will be an exceptional opportunity for members of the community to participate in a program that yields positive physical results over a 3-month

Gold's Gym Saipan announced period, while also providing mass (muscle) gained, and the enough knowledge to keep those results for a lifetime," said Gold's Gym co-owner Eric Plinske.

> The Challenge is primarily a weight loss competition where substantial cash and prizes will be awarded to the top three men and top three women who lose the most weight as a percentage of their original starting weight. However, there will also be a "Most Amazing Body Transformation" category, and anyone could win this category since a person could start off very slender and end up putting on considerable weight and muscle, or a person could be obese and take off a considerable amount of weight and fat. The winner of the Most Amazing Body Transformation prize will be chosen by a combination of the most fat lost, the most lean body

most visibly impressive body transformation based upon their before and after photos. The winner of the Most Amazing Body Transformation category may also end up being a winner of one of the weight loss categories, which increases their chance to win additional cash and prizes.

Eligibility

- You do not have member to participate;
- You must be at least 16 years of age with a parent's consent if under 18;
- You must be able to provide proof of CNMI residency (Saipan, Rota, or Tinian);
- You must complete and submit a registration form to Gold's Gym no later than

loeten Motors

5pm on June 15;

■ You must complete the final weigh-out on the prescribed dates and no later than 5pm on Sept. 14.

Registration for the Body Success Challenge will start immediately after the information session tomorrow morning at Gold's Gym and will run through Sunday, June

15. The registration fee for the Body Success Challenge is to be a Gold's Gym C H A L L E N G E \$100. Registration change your life! forms will only be

> available at the Gold's Gym front desk. The official start date of the Challenge will be Monday, June 16, and the official end date of the Challenge will be Sunday, Sept. 14, totaling 13 weeks.

Free "Tips for **Success" Seminars**

Participants will also have access to free "Tips for Success" seminars at Gold's Gym that will be held on Saturday mornings once the competition begins and they will cover hot topics such as "Effective Nutrition for Fat Loss," "Cardio Training for a High Speed Fat Burn," "Resistance Exercises that Guaranty Results," "Accelerating Your Success with Proper Nutritional Supplements," and "The Latest Technology in Weight Loss - The BodyBugg."

Body Success Challenge Prizes

1st place (men's & women's cat-

1-year membership at Gold's Gym;

2nd place (men's & women's categories) = \$500 cash and a free 6-month membership at Gold's Gym;

3rd place (men's & women's categories) = \$200 cash and a free 3-month membership at Gold's Gym;

Most Amazing Body Transformation = \$500 cash; PTI camera phone; & feature story in MP magazine.

According to Plinske, Gold's Gym is also considering the addition of an optional weekly weigh-in incentive program where cash prizes would be awarded each week to the competitor that loses the most weight from their weigh-in the previous week. Gold's Gym has also reserved the right to combine the men's and women's categories for the weight loss component of the Body Success Challenge and award a single 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place prize, rather than to both male and female winners for each category, if at least 50 participants do not register by June 15, 2008.

Gold's Gym membership Incentive:

Even though you don't have to be a Gold's Gym member to compete in the Body Success Challenge, Gold's Gym is offer-

egories) = \$1,000 cash and a free ing a special 3-month membership for only \$99 (regular \$175) so that Challenge participants can sign-up, if they aren't already a Gold's Gym member, and gain full access to all of the equipment, services, exercise classes and training programs that Gold's Gym has to offer. Plinske said that Gold's Gym is about to launch a free weekly weight training orientation program for its members to provide knowledge about a wide variety of effective resistance exercises including proper form and technique, use of different equipment, purpose of each exercise, and the benefits each exercise will provide.

> "With the high utility rates, why not turn off the power at your home and come on down to Gold's Gym where you can watch cable TV in an air conditioned environment while vou exercise on our cardio equipment or weight machines and then take a shower before you leave ... while, at the same time, increasing your chances of winning substantial cash and prizes for Changing your Body and Changing your Life," Plinske said.

> For more details about the Body Success Challenge or to register, contact Gold's Gym at 233-4000, email goldsgym@ saipan.com or visit Gold's Gym located at Garapan Central Park on Kopa Di Oru Street.



SHOWROOM HOURS: MON. - FRI. 8 AM - 6 PM SAT. 8 AM - 12 NOON • TEL. 234-5562





NOTICE TO ALL VALUED GUESTS

Please be advised that PIC Saipan will be conducting routine maintenance to the Point Break Wave Machine (Flow Rider).

The current schedule of maintenance is as follows:

Point Break Wave Machine: June 12 (Thu) ~ July 3 (Thu), resume operation July 4 (Fri). *Schedule may change due to weather conditions and any unforeseen problems.

The Lazy River will remain open during this period; however, the Tube Slide going from the Point Break down into the Lazy River will not be available. All other facilities will be in regular operation.

Thank you very much for your understanding. PIC Management

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Vendors sought for Games, tournament

The 2008 Oceania Games will be held on June 21-28, 2008 at the Oleai Sports Complex and the Asia Pacific Little League Tournament will be held on June 25 through July 6, 2008 at the Francisco Palacios Baseball Field.

In consideration of these upcoming special events, interested vendors who wish to sell food, snacks and drinks (no alcoholic beverages allowed) during these games are requested to submit/fax their proposals to the Sports and Recreation Office at 664-2510 no later than Friday, June 13, 2008 for consideration. Concessionaires are limited to only six vendors. (PR)

Green Meadow School announcements

Green Meadow School opens their Summer Classes for SY 2007-2008. They are offering Computer, Music, Art and the 3'Rs (Reading, Writing & Arithmetic) for the following two sessions:

First Sessions: June 2 - July 4, 2008 (5 weeks)

Second Session: July 7 - Aug. 8, 2008 (5 weeks)

Fees: \$200/per session (whole day); \$100/per session (half day)

Enrollment for School Year 2008 - 2009 is now going on! School starts Aug. 11, 2008. (PR)

GTC Cultural & Health Festival 2008

We would like to invite the public to our GTC Cultural & Health Festival on Saturday, May 31, 2008 from 10:00am to 5:00pm at GTC Elementary Field, San Roque. There will be many activities, game booths, food, entertainment, exciting Cultural Demonstrations, and much, much, more for the entire family. Join us for a day of family fun.

New schedule for public library

The following is the new schedule of the Joeten Kiyu Public Library:

Monday-CLOSED Tuesday-9am-5pm Wednesday-9am-5pm Thursday-9am-5pm Friday-9am-5pm Saturday-9am-5pm Sunday-CLOSED Government Holidays-**CLOSED**

Democratic Party meeting

The Democratic Party (NMI) will hold a general membership meeting Wednesday, June 4, 2008 at 6pm at the Garapan Central Park. Important matters to be discussed, including the reorganization of the Central Executive Committee and upcoming CNMI delegate election.

SSHS: No school today, May 30

Saipan Southern High School will have no classes on May 30, 2008, due to preparation for the graduation. Classes will resume on June 4, 2008, this will be the last day of school. (PR)

S&NISWCD meeting in June

The Saipan & Northern Islands Soil and Water Conservation District would like to inform the general public of their monthly

meeting S&NISWCD meeting on Tuesday, June 3, 2008 at 1pm at the Natural Resources Conservation Service Office. For more information contact our office at 234-6180. (PR)

MHS Class on 1988 meeting on June 5

The Marianas High School Class of 1988 will have a meeting again on June 5, 2008, 6:30pm at the residence of Melvin and Eleanor Cepeda in As Lito, behind Saipan International School.

It was decided on Thursday, May 15, 2008, meeting to extend the dateline for payments 2624. (PR)

to June 5, 2008. Classmates are being encouraged to turn in there payments by then. You can contact our Treasurer Ms. Melissa D. Diaz at 285-



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Beef **Tendons** U.S.



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Kawali U.S.

Pork Belly



Chicken Leg Quarters 33.07# US



FROZEN

Beef **Oxtail** U.S.

Beef Shortribs BI THCK SLC US CHC





Turkey **Drumstick**



Scallops (20/30)

THE BAKE / DELI SHOPPE

Sun Flower Mackarel 15 oz. JPN



W/B MNTN 100 oz.



Campbell's Chicken Pork & Beans 8 oz.





Niagara Spray Orig.

15 oz.

Takeya Tokujyo Miso 1 kg JPN



Campbell's Chicken

Noodle 26 oz.

Mori-nu Tofu Soft 12 oz.

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Dewar's 750 ml.

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Alize Red

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PRODUCE

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Potato, **Russet US**







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Tangerine, Fairchild US 14 **\$188**



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Apple, Red **Delicious US** 39

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PUBLIC NOTICE



The Department of Public Safety (DPS) announces that Public Law No. 16-2, Section 8, entitled 'Various Government Services Fees,' fees for the following government

services	s shall be increased by one hundred percent (10)0%) e	effective	June 1,	2008:
Drive	r License (D/L) Fees	Cur	rent		w Fee lates
	Off Island Valid D/L Renewal Penalty after 30 working days Duplicate Extension Permit Change of Information Taxi License - New Taxi - Renewal Off Island Driving Record	\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$	15.00 15.00 10.00 5.00 5.00 5.00 15.00 15.00 2.00	***	30.00 30.00 20.00 10.00 10.00 10.00 10.00 30.00 4.00
Vehicle Registration Fees					
i	Bicycles Mopeds/Motorcycles up to 100 cc, Motorcycles over 100cc Taxi Operators	\$ \$ \$	1.50 5.00 10.00 75.00	\$	3.00 10.00 20.00 150.00
•	Pickups, jeeps, sedan and other motor vehic passengers or one-half ton capacity and weigh pounds,	ghing			
•	Trucks, buses, self-propelled equipment and pounds as specified by the manufacturer at t entry into the Commonwealth, which ever is	he tim	ne of the		
	(a) Under 2,999 pounds or fraction thereof,	\$	25.00	\$	50.00

•	 (a) Under 2,999 pounds or fraction thereof, (b) 3,000 to 4,999 pounds or fraction thereof, (c) 5,000 to 7,499 pounds or fraction thereof, (d) 7,500 pounds and over Low boys 	\$ 25.00 \$ 50.00 \$ 100.00 \$ 200.00 \$ 25.00	\$ 50.00 \$ 100.00 \$ 200.00 \$ 400.00 \$ 50.00
:	Duplicate Registration Card/ Certificate of Ownership Lost/Stolen License Plates Safety Sticker (decal) Heavy Equipment/Bus L/P	\$ 5.00 \$ 5.00 \$ 5.00 \$ 10.00	\$ 10.00 \$ 10.00 \$ 10.00 \$ 20.00

Motor Vehicle Inspection Station Facility Permit

•	New & Renewal	\$ 100.00	\$ 200.00
•	Inspector Certificate	\$ 100.00	\$ 200.00

Vessel & Jet Ski

	New/Import/Renewal Duplicate - Regis./Title	I		- I	20.00
-	Duplicate - Negls./ Title	Ψ	2.00	φ	4.00

Firearms & Record Section Fees

•	Police Report per page Finger Printing	\$	1.00	\$ 2.00
	 Firearms 	\$10.00 set of 2		00 set of 2
	EmploymentTeachers	\$10.00 set of 2 \$24.00 set of 2		00 set of 2 00 set of 2
	TeachersTaxicab	\$24.00 set of 2		00 set of 2
•	Firearms I.D. Renewal	\$25.00 per I.D.	\$50.	00 per I.D.

Firearms/Dealer/Manufacturer or Wholesaler License

■ New & Renewal	\$ 300.00	\$ 600.00
Employees License	\$ 25.00	\$ 50.00
 Shooting Gallery Range License 	\$ 5,000.00	\$10,000.00
 Range Safety Officer 	\$ 25.00	\$ 50.00

Driver Education School License

•	New/Renewal	\$ 100.00	\$ 200.00
•	Instructor License	\$ 50.00	\$ 100.00

The Department of Public Safety also reminds everyone that Public Law 15-25 "The Mandatory Driver Education School" takes effect on June 2, 2008.

For questions you may have, please call DPS, Division of Motor Vehicles at 664-9066/9068/9069/9070.







The Northern Marianas College's Building Q, which houses three classrooms for the School of Education program, displays the facelift it recently underwent.

MC buildings undergo facelift

lege said yesterday that three of the four renovation projects on campus have been completed. The completion of the projects place NMC closer to meeting the accreditation mandates set by the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges.

The completed projects include Building L, which houses the NMC's Procurement and Maintenance offices, which were temporarily located at Building N and Building V, re-

houses three classrooms for NMC's School of Education; and Building S, which serves as the Curriculum Resource Center, a resource center for NMC's School of Education students.

"The completion of the renovation projects on campus illustrates NMC's commitment to accelerating the improvement of campus facilities and infrastructure for the benefit of our students," said Dr. Carmen Fernandez, NMC president. "The completion of the construction

spectively; Building Q, which projects will go a long way in helping to ensure that the college receives accreditation reaffirmation in January 2009."

> The renovated facilities are already being used for their intended purpose. However, Building M, which will house offices and classrooms for the college's language department, is still awaiting the installation of its air conditioning unit. Once this occurs, students will be expected to begin occupying them for instructional purposes by Fall 2008. (NMC)

Philippine Consulate to issue new passports

The Philippine Consulate General in Saipan wishes to inform all Filipinos in the CNMI that it will be accepting and processing for the new Machine Readable Passports by June this year.

The MRP is a project of the Philippine Department of For-

eign Affairs in compliance with the requirements of the International Civil Aviation Organization for document security and ease to travel.

A Machine Readable Passport is a passport where the personal details of the applicant is printed in such a way that it can be read by the naked eye; at the same time, it contains a "machine readable zone" containing the personal data of the passport holder that can be read by a machine or computer.



The CNMI Head Start Program is pleased to announce Open Registration for School year 2008-2009



REGISTRATION DOCUMENTS REQUIRED

Only parents or legal guardians are authorized to register their child(ren).

- Child(ren) birth certificate.
- Head Start Program Forms 3, 4 & 5 (copies can be obtained at the Head Start Office)
- Social Security Card
- School Health Entrance Certificate and medical insurance (if any).
- Parent's/Guardian's verification of income (2 of your most current check stubs or other public assistance, such as Medicaid, WIC or Nutrition Assistance).
- Passport/Visa/Immigration Permit (for non-residents)
- Legal Guardians must provide notarized documents stipulating the guardianship of child(ren).
- Parents of children with disabilities are required to bring

Please be advised that the Head Start Program is a Federally Funded program that has Eligibility and Selection Criteria's. Registering your child does not guarantee automatic enrollment. The program currently enrolls between the ages of 3-5 years old.

Children cannot be accepted into the program prior to their 3rd birthday.

For more information:

Please visit office at any Head Start Center near you #1256 Pohnpei Way, Capitol Hill, Saipan

664-3751 or 323-7446

Wen Hui Ye leads NMA Class of 2008

The Northern Marianas Academy held its 15th commencement exercises for 13 students on May 22 and members of this year's graduating class have been accepted to over 30 universities and colleges.

Wen Hui Ye, NMA's 2008 valedictorian, is headed to University of California at Berkeley to pursue a degree in pharmacology. Ye also graduated summa cum laude from NMC this past Saturday with an associate degree. She was also accepted to five other campuses in the University of California system UCLA, UC San Diego, Santa Cruz, Davis and Irvine – as well as University of the Pacific and Johns Hopkins University.

This year's salutatorian is

Deborah Lee. Among her many accomplishments are inclusion on the National Dean's List, 2008 National Merit Scholarship recipient and semifinalist in the Toyota Community Scholars program. Lee scored a perfect 800 in the Math SAT Reasoning test taken this past October. She will be departing shortly for Cambridge, Massachusetts, where she will be entering Harvard University on a full scholarship and majoring in Economics. Lee was also admitted to Stanford, University of Pennsylvania, Duke University, Cornell, Swarthmore, Wellesley and Vassar College. She is on the waitlist for Princeton and Williams College.

This year's Honorable Men-

tion awards went to Lyre Vianka Johnson and Taylor Elaine Smith. Johnson was accepted to the University of Washington and Smith will be attending Brigham Young University. Both graduated magna cum laude from Northern Marianas College.

A total of nine NMA students completed the necessary requirements to graduate from NMC, with five graduating with honors for maintaining an NMC GPA above 3.75. This year's graduates will also be heading off to Washington State University, Seattle University, University of Washington, Eastern Washington University, Rhode Island School of Design and the U.S. Army.

The CNMI's sole college preparatory high school, NMA has been educating the islands' high achieving scholars since 1990.



The graduating class of the Northern Marianas Academy.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Fifth grader is tops among **CNMI** students in math tilt

Kiley Conner, a fifth grade student from the Eucon International School, received the highest achievement in the CNMI for this year's World Maths Day

Competition. The competition, which is participated by over a million students around the world, is a program to get students all over the world working together to solve

simple math problems.

Students compete in real time against over a million students from over 150 countries.

Results from World Maths Day coordinators indicated that Conner earned the rank of first place in the Northern Marianas Islands and a little over 9,000 in the world.

Eight students from different grade levels at EIC participated in this event.

According to Conner's teacher Katie Peters, "Kiley is a diligent and highachieving student. She gave a good effort to take some time to solve some [math] problems.

She added that Conner's parents gave great support by allowing and encouraging their daughter to join. "We hope to have more students join in World Maths Day next year." (Rianne Pangelinan-Brown)





The Mariana Islands Nature Alliance (MINA) will be holding their annual 2008 general membership meeting at the Fiesta Resort & Spa this Friday, May 30 starting at 6:00 PM.

FREE dinner buffet for all active MINA members

To RSVP & more information call 322-7208



All-in does not always win in poker tilt

A Korean national Kim S.D. (name withheld) swept the competition over the weekend and earned the title of champion during the "Memorial Classic Hold'em Poker Championship" held at Tinian Dynasty Hotel & Casino.

Kim took home \$5,000 cash, with the second prize going to Toshio Konno from Japan and the third prize going to Darrell Fair of Saipan.

A total of 31 participants from Tinian, Saipan, Guam, Japan and Korea joined the Hold'em Poker tournament.

The build up to the main event began on Saturday afternoon at 3pm with the commencement of satellite tournaments. Satellite tournaments allow players to enter an inexpensive tournamentin this case only a \$35 entry fee new and unfamiliar contendwas required—for the chance to play and win a seat into a more high-priced tournament, in this case the main event: The Memorial Classic at \$350 entry. With five satellites run on Friday and six satellites run on Saturday, a third of all participants earned themselves a cheap entry into the weekend's event.

The main event started at 8pm and was originally structured as a two-day event but the play quickly settled into solid action on all fronts, with starters not afraid to take a few risks and utilize the once-only re-buy option. By midnight, 21 participants had been knocked out of the competition, with the final table made up of a few wellknown faces as well as some ers. The action tightened up dramatically once the final table had been decided. All displayed some shrewd and careful play but eventually the more astute slowly and deliberately overcame their competition.

With four players left in the game, Fair made his move when he pushed all-in holding pocket Queens and the flop showing A-Q-3, giving him three of a kind and Kim pairing the ace in his hand. The turn came, then the river brought Kim three-of-akind Aces leaving Fair bewildered and short-stacked. Fair recovered to send the fourth place to the rail but was eventually eaten up by the blinds and walked away with third place.

This set the scene for a Japa-

nese and Korean showdown that lasted well into the early hours with neither wanting to settle for second place. The end came when Konno, who had shown great patience all evening, was dominated by Kim's stack and moved all-in with J-8 off-suit. Kim, seemingly keen to bring about an end, turned over 9-2 unsuited and managed to pair his 9 on the flop. The turn and river remained blank for Konno, giving Kim the victory.

Tinian Dynasty Hotel & Casino would like to thank the team at Marpac and Budweiser for supporting this exciting event! If you wish to receive information regarding Hold'em Poker tournaments and other casino events, contact VIP Services 328-2233. *(TDHC)*



The local prize winner, Darrell Fair, receives his third place trophy and

cash winnings from Tony Jackson, Tinian Dyansty's Tournament Director. Light in the Eve presents

MINA with \$6K donation

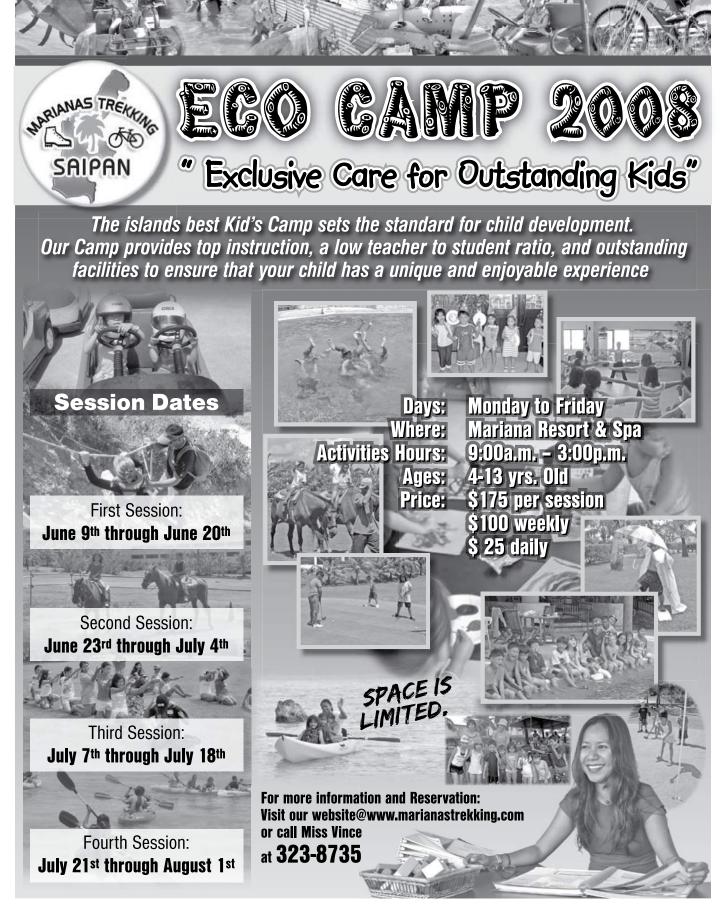
Light in the Eve President Foun- CNMI natural resources trying dation president Teresa Kim and Mariana Islands Nature Alliance chairman Fran Castro will be shaking hands tonight at the MINA's General Member-

check for \$6,000 to MINA. The funds were raised at this year's Pineapple Ball "Glamour Under the Sea." The Light in the Eve Foundation was created in 2003 with the mission to help the islands' non-profit groups achieve their goals in bettering the lives of resident of the CNMI.

MINA is a non-profit environmental group dedicated to the conservation of the natural resources of the Commonwealth. MINA works to involve the community in the conservation and management of the 6pm and learn more. (PR)

to achieve long-term preservation and better understanding of our ecosystem. Funds raised this year will be going to MINA's environmental teacher's camp. The ship Meeting. Light in the Eve camp, which will be held this will be handing over a donation summer, introduces educators about the marine ecosystem, provides hands-on outdoor training, and helps to develop curriculum and ways to seek other educational resources. Participants of the teacher's camp are expected to include an awareness and appreciation of the marine resources to their students throughout the school year.

> All people interested in the environment and becoming MINA members are welcome to come to the Fiesta Resort and Spa for the MINA banquet tonight at





ENGINE FOR THE ENFORCEMENT SECTION'S JUSTICE VESSEL FOR THE DIVISION OF FISH & WILDLIFE"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATION MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY IN LOWER BASE DR., SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS. PREFERENCE IS AVAILABLE TO US CITIZENS AS PER PUBLIC LAW 15-95 AND AS FURTHER AMENDED BY PUBLIC LAW 15-118 AND MUST BE SUBMITTED THE BID IF PREFERENCE IS CLAIMED.

/s/ DR. IGNACIO T. DELA CRUZ, D.V.M. SECRETARY, DLNR

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN DIRECTOR, P&S





SUBMISSION: JUNE 13. 2008

TIME: 2:00 P.M.

"IMPLEMENTATION OF MEDICAID DATA SYSTEM DESIGN FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH, CNMI MEDICAID OFFICE"

COPIES OF THE SCOPE OF SERVICES MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY IN LOWERBASE DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

A MANDATORY PRE-PROPOSAL CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD ON JUNE 03, 2008 AT 10:00 A.M. AT DR. JOSE VILLAGOMEZ BUILDING/HEMODIALYSIS CENTER CONFERENCE ROOM.

PREFERENCE IS AVAILABLE TO US CITIZENS OR PERMANENT RESIDENTS AS PER PUBLIC LAW 15-95 AND AS FURTHER AMENDED BY PUBLIC LAW 15-118 AND MUST BE SUBMITTED WITH THE PROPOSAL IF PREFERENCED IS CLAIMED.

/s/ JOSEPH K.P. VILLAGOMEZ SECRETARY OF HEALTH

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN DIRECTOR, P&S

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The same of the sa	100



20 FRIDAY, MAY 30, 2008 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Business

BUSINESS BRIEFS

United, US Airways CEOs meet Thursday

CHICAGO (AP)—The CEOs of United Airlines and US Airways are scheduled to meet Thursday as talks aimed at combining the carriers progress despite concerns that threaten to scuttle the deal, according to two people briefed on the discussions. The attempted pairing would create the world's largest carrier. One of the people, who did not want to jeopardize the talks and requested anonymity, said Glenn Tilton, the chief executive of United parent UAL Corp., and US Airways CEO Doug Parker will meet to discuss some of the issues holding up the deal and how to resolve them. The person said the location of the face-to-face meeting was undisclosed.

Yahoo CEO says company is not 'under siege'

CARLSBAD, Calif. (AP)—Yahoo Inc. CEO Jerry Yang rejected the image of his company as "under siege" Wednesday, telling conference goers that executives are rallying to streamline Yahoo's offerings and make it more relevant to consumers and to advertisers. Yahoo faces the threat of mutiny from shareholders unhappy with the way its board handled a takeover offer from Microsoft Corp. that was ultimately withdrawn this month. Speaking at The Wall Street Journal's "D: All Things Digital" conference in Carlsbad, Calif., Yang stood by his handling of the deal and painted a bright future for the Internet pioneer he co-founded. Yang and Yahoo President Susan Decker said the company was reorganizing around four pillars: home page, search, mail and mobile services.

Bear Stearns-JPMorgan Chase deal set for vote

NEW YORK (AP)—One of the biggest corporate casualties of the global credit crisis, Bear Stearns Cos., is about to vanish into history. The company brought to the verge of bankruptcy amid heavy mortgage-related losses is expected to become part of JPMorgan Chase & Co. after a vote Thursday by Bear Stearns shareholders. But while the vote will seal the buyout deal brokered by the Federal Reserve, the debate about the 85-year-old company's demise will continue as analysts, academics and politicians try to decide exactly what went wrong. Shareholders are being asked to approve a deal to buy Bear Stearns at \$10 a share—a paltry amount considering that the stock was worth almost \$154 one year ago.

Oil rebounds on supply concerns

NEW YORK (AP)—Oil futures rose back above \$131 Wednesday, recovering from early losses as threats against Nigerian oil facilities led investors to at least temporarily set aside concerns about falling U.S. gas demand.

At the pump, meanwhile, gas prices rose to a new record over \$3.94 a gallon.

Light, sweet crude for July delivery rose \$2.18 to settle at \$131.03 on the New York Mercantile Exchange, after spending the morning swinging between gains and losses. At its lows, oil was down nearly \$3 a barrel, compounding a \$3.34 drop in crude on Tuesday. It passed \$135 for the first time the psychologically important \$4 last Thursday.

Although prices rebounded sharply Wednesday, investors are still contending with a growing belief that U.S. demand for gas is falling in response to prices that already average more than \$4 in 11 states and the District of Columbia. The national average price of a gallon of regular gas rose 0.7 cent overnight to a new record of \$3.944, according to AAA and the Oil Price Information Service.

Gas prices are likely to keep rising as long as crude prices don't collapse, analysts said. And that means prices will soon breach level on a national basis.

Diesel also rose to a new record Wednesday, adding a cent to average \$4.778 nationally, AAA and the Oil Price Information Service said. High diesel prices are pushing the prices of consumer goods and food higher. In other Nymex trading, June gasoline futures rose 6.46 cents to settle at a record \$3.4476 a gallon after earlier rising to a trading record of \$3.458 a gallon. June heating oil futures rose 2.51 cents to settle at \$3.8243 a gallon, and June natural gas futures rose 11.5 cents to settle at \$11.916 per 1,000 cubic feet.

NEW YORK (AP)—Wall Street managed to finish an erratic session with a moderate gain Wednesday as investors found some comfort in upbeat data on durable goods orders.

Stocks rise after

durable goods data

Oil prices, however, remain a big focus on Wall Street. Crude's recovery from its lows Wednesday ate into some of the stock market's enthusiasm over the Commerce Department's durable goods report; the government said orders for items including aircraft, machinery, cars, refrigerators and computers slipped 0.5 percent last month.

The Dow Jones industrial average rose 45.68, or 0.36 percent, to 12,594.03. The blue chips had been down more than 45 points earlier in the session.

Broader stock indicators also ended higher. The Standard & Poor's 500 index rose 5.49, or 0.40 percent, to 1,390.84, and the Nasdaq composite index rose 5.46, or 0.22 percent, to

Bond prices fell following the durable goods report. The yield on the benchmark 10-year Treasury note, which moves opposite its price, jumped to 4.03 percent from 3.92 percent late Tuesday.

Dow: Country in 'true energy crisis'; ups prices

Better start stocking up on diapers and detergent.

Consumers hit hard in recent months by sharply higher prices for gasoline and food should prepare to start paying more for various household items following Dow Chemical Co.'s decision to raise its prices by up to 20 percent to offset the soaring cost of energy.

The company, which announced the price increases Wednesday, took the unusual step of directing blame at the nation's energy policy makers.

"For years, Washington has failed to address the issue of rising energy costs and, as a result, the country now faces a true energy crisis, one that is causing serious harm to America's manufacturing sector and all consumers of energy," Andrew Liveris, Dow Chemical's chairman and chief executive, said in a written statement.

Dow Chemical's spiraling costs are "forcing difficult discussions with customers," he said.

The Midland, Mich.-based company supplies a broad swath of industries, from agriculture to health care, and any sizable price jumps would likely affect almost all of them.

The price increases will take effect Sunday and will be based on a product's exposure to rising costs. Dow Chemical said it spent \$8 billion on energy and hydrocarbon-based feedstock, or raw materials, back in 2002 and that could climb fourfold to \$32 billion this year.

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY **CNMI GOVERNMENT**



SUBMISSION: JUNE 18, 2008

TIME: 1:00 P.M.

"VIP HOUSING FOR PHYSICIANS FOR THE COMMONWEALTH HEALTH CENTER"

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/s/ JOSEPH K.P. VILLAGOMEZ SECRETARY OF HEALTH

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN DIRECTOR, P&S



CLOSING DATE: Monday, June 9, 2008

TIME: 10:00 a.m.

"INSURANCE FOR CDA PROPERTIES"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY OFFICE, 1ST FLOOR, WAKIN'S BLDG., GUALO RAI, SAIPAN DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS OR BY FACSIMILE REQUEST TO 235-7147.

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/s/OSCAR C. CAMACHO

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN

WANTED IMMEDIATELY

SURVEYOR

Please submit resume at: GPPC, INC.



The Marianas Apnea Spearfishing Club wish to thank the following sponsors and volunteers for their support in making the 2nd Annual Spearfishing Tournamanet a success.

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LARRY TENORIO

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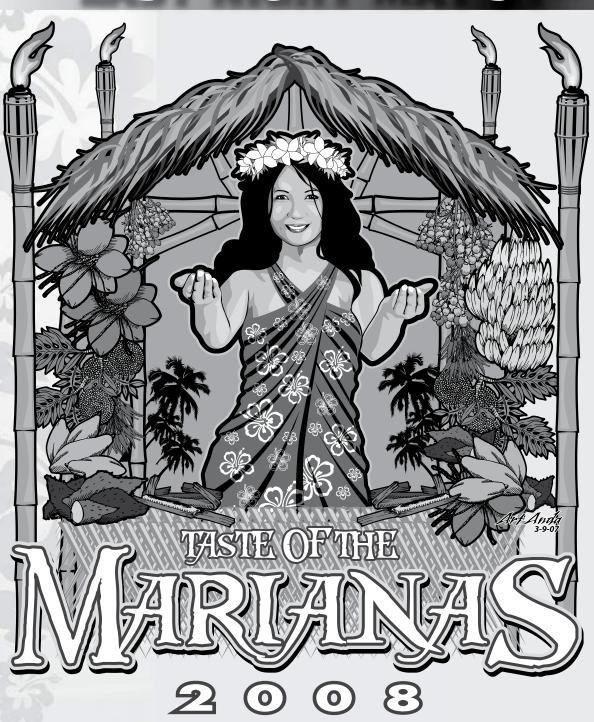
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SAIPAN TRIBUNE FRIDAY, MAY 30, 2008 **21**

LAST NIGHT MAY 31st . 6PM - 11PM



International Food Festival and Beer Garden

AMERICAN MEMORIAL PARK MAY 3, 10, 17, 24 & 31, 2008

May 31, 2008 PROGRAM

6:00 p.m 6:45 p.m.	Vital Signs
7:00 p.m 7:15p.m.	Angel International School of Dance
7:15p.m 7:30 p.m.	PCA Warrior Dancers
7:30 p.m 8:30 p.m.	Tinian Taga Cultural Dancers
8:30 p.m 9:00 p.m.	WV & Son
9:15 p.m 10:15 p.m.	Tasi/Alii Show
10:30 p.m 11:00 p.m.	Retro Jazz Band

May 31, 2008 (Competition stage) Bartender's Competition • 7:00 P.M.

2008 Taste of the Marianas vendors:

- Aqua Resort Club, Saipan
- Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan 2.
- Hafadai Beach Hotel 3.
- Hyatt Regency Saipan
- Pacific Islands Club Saipan
- Palms Resort Saipan
- Saipan World Resort
- Mariana Resort & Spa
- Capricciosa & Tony Roma's
- D'Elegance Café
- Herman's Modern Bakery
- Hula Girl
- Thai House Restaurant 13.
- Poon's Restaurant
- Ty & Tia 15.
- **Pacific Trading Company** 16.
- MARPAC 17.
- Northern Marianas Bartender Association

For more information, please contact MVA Office (Saipan) at 664-3200/01

"Tourism is Everybody's Business"

TOURISM MONTH ACTIVITIES

SATTAN

May 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, 2008

Taste Of The Marianas International Food Festival & Beer Garden - Event will be held every Saturday in May at the American Memorial Park from 6:00pm to 10:00pm.

"Hafa Adai Tirow Way Fridays"

Every Friday, the community is encouraged to wear local attire. The community is encouraged to showcase our unique island culture by wearing mwar mwars or local beads.

May 31, 2008

Tourism Month "Ayuda" Charity Mountain Bike Race

The Ayuda Mountain Bike race will consist of a short course for children 8-12 years of age, short mountain bike race for beginners, and Open Division. Starting point will be at American Memorial Park to Mt. Tapochao and back.

For more information, please contact the MVA office at 664-3200/01 and ask for Ed Diaz.

Radio Trivia Program "Did you know and Fun Facts about Tourism in the CNMI

Awareness on facts about tourism in the CNMI will be aired regularly throughout the month on Power 99 and 97.9 The KAT. Listeners will have a chance to answer tourism question and will have a chance to win prizes.



















































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BABY CARROTS

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Office politics happens

By LILY GARCIA

O: "I'm not a fan of office politics (mainly because I'm an introvert), and I'm wondering if smaller companies tend to have less office politics than larger companies. I've worked with Fortune 500 companies and I'm trying to transition to a (relatively) smaller company. I'm just wondering if my old nemesis, office politics, will be there as well."

A: In a larger organization, it might be harder to get noticed unless you are good at self-promotion. Within the formal structure for employee recognition, introverts like you might have a tendency to blend into the crowd. By their nature, smaller organizations might be a better fit for you because they offer greater opportunities for employees to chart their own course and contribute to the mission in unique and highly visible ways.

But that does not mean that smaller organizations are free of office politics. I have worked for companies of more than 100,000 employees and intimate operations run by a handful of staff. Everywhere I go, I encounter similar issues for the simple reason that organizations large and small are composed of

people. It is human nature to be political.

I realize that what you mean by "politics" is people jockeying for position or power, sometimes through unscrupulous or disingenuous means. I am just inviting you to consider that this is no more than an extreme example of the typical human behavior you are likely to encounter in any workplace.

When you make the decision to accept your co-worker's invitation to grab coffee even though you have little in common, you are being political. When you smilingly tolerate your boss' meandering anecdote about the preparations for his son's catechism, you are being political. Sometimes office politics is just what we do to get along better with fellow employees, to display courtesy, to avoid hurting feelings.

As far as the "bad" kind of politics, that exists in small organizations, too. I have witnessed employees of extremely small organizations-nonprofits, even-gossiping viciously about co-workers to gain a tactical advantage and posturing more shamelessly than any seven-figure VP. But since there is greater individual accountability in smaller groups of people, you can realistically expect to find less of this type of destructive behavior there.

S DOLLARS AND SENSE

Where are your key documents?

By DAVID UFFINGTON

If something happens to you, where is all your important information? Whether it's due to death or disability, those around you need to have fast access to your financial and legal information.

There's a publication that can help you pull all your information together in one place: "If Something Should Happen: How to Organize your Financial and Legal Affairs," by Marla Brill of the American Institute of Economic Research.

This publication is surprisingly comprehensive for its low price (\$10) and small size (44 pages). It's the small size that makes it easy to use. Besides providing space for you to fill in all your information, it provides resources for questions you might have on a number of topics without overloading you with information.

The publication is broken into three sections: Taking Stock, Planning and Organizing Your Records.

"Taking Stock" covers areas you need to consider first: Is your estate plan up to date? Have circumstances changed since you made out a will? Will those responsible for handling your affairs have access to your money to pay bills?

The "Planning" section covers the roles of wills, living wills, health-care proxy, power of attorney, executor, guardian and trustee in your estate planning, offering guidelines and warnings where appropriate.

The "Organizing Your Records" section is the place to record all your information: People to contact, your attorney, location of your personal papers, the name of your executor, medical information, your assets and liabilities, your computer e-mail address and passwords—and much more.

Because so much information can be recorded in one place, give thought to where to put "If Something Should Happen." If you do fill out all the information and it falls into the wrong hands, you could be at risk for identity theft, at the very least. Because of the format (a thin volume the size of regular printing paper) it can be hidden between thicker volumes in a bookcase, or under folders standing upright in a file cabinet. If you put it in your bank box, give consideration to who will have access. Ask the bank: You might need a co-signer (with a key) on the bank

"If Something Should Happen" can be ordered directly from AIER by calling 413-528-1216 or online at www.aier.org.

SAIPAN TRIBUNE FRIDAY, MAY 30, 2008 **25**



26 FRIDAY, MAY 30, 2008 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Nation

2 trains collide in Boston; one derails in Chicago

commuter trains collided and derailed during the evening rush hour outside Boston on Wednesday, trapping and killing the operator of one train and injuring several passengers, authorities said.

The crash came just hours after an elevated train derailed in Chicago, sending several people to hospitals in a wreck that officials quickly blamed on operator error.

Investigators did not know what caused the Boston wreck, which killed the 24-year-old operator and injured about 10 passengers in an above-ground accident on the city's "T" system near a station in suburban Newton.

Terrese Edmonds' body was

NEWTON, Mass. (AP) -- Two still trapped in the wreckage late Wednesday, and the operation to rescue her changed to a recovery mission, said Joe Pesaturo, a spokesman for the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority.

> The two-car train she was operating slammed into the back of another two-car train approaching Woodland Station, Pesaturo said.

"The first one was stopped at a red signal and was ready to proceed to the station when it was struck," he said.

One passenger was flown to a Boston hospital, and the other injured commuters were taken to nearby Newton-Wellesley Hospital, Pesaturo said.

The hospital had eight trainwreck patients, none with serious injuries, said spokesman Brian O'Dea. Passenger Barry Gallup, standing aboard the train that was hit, told WCVB-TV that the impact threw him to the floor.

"I may have been knocked out for a few seconds. ... The next thing I knew I was lying on the ground," Gallup told WCVB.

He described a confused scene immediately after the crash, with some passengers screaming and small fires breaking out on the side of the train. Other passengers concurred about the chaos.

"There was a 70-year-old old guy who went ballistic, screaming at the conductor,



Rescue workers swarm the site of a commuter train crash in Newton, Mass. Wednesday, March 28, 2008.

'You killed my wife! You killed my wife!' And the wife is going, 'I'm OK! I'm OK,"" passenger Matt Stone, 46, told The Boston Globe.

Federal investigators were on their way to the crash site, said Peter Knudson, a spokesman for the National Transportation Safety Board.

In Chicago, authorities said a train operator apparently made two key errors in quick succession to cause a derailment that left passengers perched more than 20 feet above the ground and sent several to hospitals.

The operator failed to heed a red signal ordering him to stop, Chicago Transit Authority spokeswoman Noelle Gaffney said. After the four-car train went through the signal, it automatically activated a trip, which stopped the train.

But the operator moved the train forward again at a spot where the tracks split before they were switched into proper position, causing the rear end of the front car and the second car to derail but remain standing, with the other two cars still on the tracks, Gaffney said.

"He was going on the wrong tracks, or started to," Gaffney said.



DISTRICTS OF GUAM AND THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY Vacancy Announcement No: GUP 08-001

Position Title: Type of Appointment:

Probation Support Specialist Part-Time Temporary Indefinite (may be converted to Full-Time in the future)

Classification Level: Salary Range: Area of Consideration: Opening Date: Closing Date:

Location of Vacancy:

Court Personnel System - Grade CL-24 \$28,806 to \$46,866 per annum plus 25% COLA All Sources May 18, 2008

June 6, 2008 (close of business - 5pm) Saipan (Part-Time)

The Probation Support Specialist provides administrative, clerical and operations support to Probation Officers and Management staff for the U.S. Probation and Pretrial Services Office in the Districts of the Northern Mariana Islands and Guam. Work is performed under the supervision of the U.S. Probation Officer Specialist and the Chief U.S. Probation Officer or designee.

Representative Duties and Responsibilities (summarized)

The duties and responsibilities include, but not limited to: 1) formatting, typing, editing and finalizing reports prepared by Probation Officers, and prepares letters, memoranda, forms and routine correspondence for Probation Officers; 2) assisting Probation Officers in managing their caseloads by performing a variety of operations tasks for supervision and investigation activities; 3) Entering client data into electronic databases and makes entries into chronological records in supervision case files; 4) Conducting criminal record checks and investigations through local and national law enforcement files and databases; 5) Processing incoming fine and restitution receipts and maintains statement balances in case files, and similarly with community service hours and urinalysis log results; 6) Providing general elerical and office support by performing a variety of administrative, clerical and operations tasks; and 7) Performs other duties as assigned.

Minimum Qualifications

This position requires the following: 1) High school diploma, or the equivalent, and a minimum of two years of general experience and one year of specialized experience. General experience is progressively responsible clerical, office, or work that indicates the possession of, or the ability to acquire, the particular knowledge and skills needed to perform the duties of the position. Specialized experience is progressively responsible clerical or administrative experience requiring the regular and recurring application of clerical procedures involving the routine use of keyboard skills and use of specialized terminology, and onstrated ability to apply a body of rules, regulations, directives, or laws. Specialized experience includes work in, or closely related to, the work of the Probation Support Specialist. Education above the high school level in accredited institutions may be substituted for the general experience on the basis of one academic year equals nine months of experience. Applicant must be a U.S. Citizen or eligible to work in the United States.

This position requires the proficiency in the use of personal computers to include the ability to type 40 words per minute; working knowledge of Microsoft Windows XP2M or higher, WordPerfect 97M or higher, and Internet browsers; strong organizational, writing, and verbal communication skills to include a good knowledge of spelling, punctuation, and grammatical usage; and ability to work well with a wide variety of people with diverse backgrounds.

This position falls within the Judicial Branch of the U.S. Government and includes most federal government benefits, which is dependent upon full-time or part-time employment status. Employees are required to adhere to the Judicial Code of Conduct, which is available upon request. The final candidate will undergo a criminal background investigation and fingerprint check. Employees are Excepted Service ("at will") employees and serve at the pleasure of the Court. This position is subject to mandatory participation in Electronic Fund Transfer for payroll deposit.

Qualified applicants must submit an original and two copies of each of the following: 1) letter of interest, 2) resume with 3 personal references, and 3) a completed AO 78 (Application for Employment) to:

Vacancy Announcement GUP 08-001 Rossanna Villagomez-Aguon

Chief U.S. Probation Officer

U.S. Probation Office - District of the Northern Mariana Islands P.O. Box 502089

4th Floor Horiguchi Bldg., Rm. 4D, Garapan

Saipan, MP 96950

671-473-9201 (Guam office)

A copy of this announcement and the AO 78 (Application for Employment) are available at the U.S. Probation Office or on the United States Courts website at http://www.uscourts.gov/employment.html

All application documents must be received at the U.S. Probation Office address above no later than Friday, June 6, 2008, at 5:00 p.m. Applications will not be accepted via email or facsimile. Untimely applications will not be considered. The most qualified applicants will be invited to, and must be physically present for, a personal interview. Such applicants may be subject to a computer proficiency test. Travel expenses and relocation expenses will not be reimbursed. All application information will

The U.S. Probation Office is an Equal Opportunity Employer



FEMA starts closing its trailer parks

BAKER, La. (AP)—The federal government has plenty of reasons to move hundreds of families out of trailers they have occupied since Hurricane Katrina: the start of a new hurricane season, concerns about toxic fumes and the need for residents to find permanent homes.

But some worry they'll have nowhere to go once they lose their subsidized housing.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency wants to close its last six trailer parks by Sunday, the first day of hurricane season. Those parks, all in Louisiana, are all that remain of the 111 the agency built and operated in the state after the August 2005 hurricane.

It's not clear, however, whether the agency will meet its goal.

While most storm victims are eager to move out of cramped travel trailers and mobile homes, others worry about where they'll end up because they are only being promised one extra month of government-subsidized sheldepleted the supply of affordable housing in the Gulf Coast, and rents are soaring.

"We have hundreds of people who have the potential for being homeless because they don't have the means for sustainable housing," said Sister Judith Brun.

The Roman Catholic nun has been helping to find new homes for residents of the Renaissance Village trailer park in this small town just north of Baton Rouge.

Although FEMA is pushing

ter. Hurricanes Katrina and Rita hard to reach its Sunday deadline, it says it won't evict anyone who isn't out of the parks by then.

> AFEMA news release Wednesday said 436 households were still occupying trailers at the six Louisiana group sites, including 85 at Renaissance Village, and estimated that 383 of them will still be in place on Sunday.

Despite that estimate, FEMA spokesman Andrew Thomas in New Orleans insisted Wednesday: "Our goal remains the same."

ACROSS THE NATION

Democrats seek compromise to delegate dispute

WASHINGTON (AP) -- With the nomination in sight, Barack Obama is willing to give rival Hillary Rodham Clinton the lion's share of the delegates from Florida and Michigan but is stopping short of her demand to fully recognize the two renegade states. The Democratic National Committee is trying to work out a compromise to the long-running dispute over Michigan and Florida. In violation of party rules, the two states held primaries in January and were stripped of their delegates. The DNC's Rules and Bylaws panel meets Saturday. The DNC could decide to send half the delegates to the convention, uncertain is which half. Another option is to seat all the delegates with half a vote. Then the issue is how those votes should be split between Hillary Rodham Clinton and Barack Obama.

Tenn. woman who spent life in iron lung dies at 61

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP)—A woman who spent nearly 60 years of her life in an iron lung after being diagnosed with polio as a child died Wednesday after a power failure shut down the machine that kept her breathing, her family said. Dianne Odell, 61, had been confined to the 7-foot-long machine since she was stricken by polio at 3 years old. Family members were unable to get an emergency generator working for the iron lung after a power failure knocked out electricity to the Odell family's residence near Jackson, about 80 miles northeast of Memphis, brother-in-law Will Beyer said. "We did everything we could do but we couldn't keep her breathing," said Beyer, who was called to the home shortly after the power failed.

Marine goes on trial on obstruction charges

CAMP PENDLETON, Calif. (AP)—A Marine intelligence officer went on trial Wednesday on charges of obstruction of justice and making false statements related to a squad's killings of 24 Iraqi civilians. First Lt. Andrew Grayson, of Springboro, Ohio, is the first of three defendants to go to trial in the case. A jury of seven officers was selected for his court-martial and the judge, Maj. Brian E. Kasprzyk, ordered opening statements to begin Thursday morning. Authorities maintain that eight Marines killed Iraqi men, women and children in Haditha shortly after a roadside bomb hit a convoy, killing the driver of a Humvee and wounding two Marines. Grayson was not present at the scene of the killings on Nov. 19, 2005, but is accused of telling a sergeant to delete photographs of the dead from his digital camera.

Calif.: Same-sex marriages OK beginning June 17

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)— Barring a stay of a historic California Supreme Court ruling, same-sex couples will be able to wed in the state beginning June 17, according to a state directive issued Wednesday.

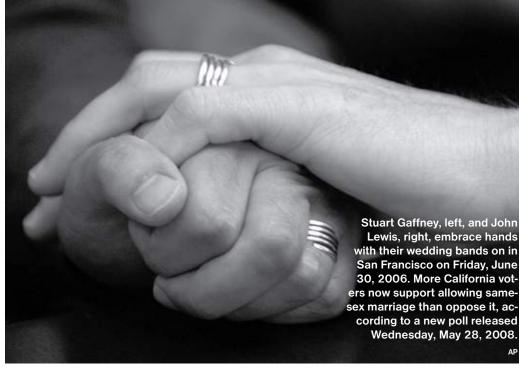
The state said it chose June 17 because the state Supreme Court has until the day before to decide whether to grant a stay of its May 15 ruling legalizing gay marriage.

Gay-rights advocates and some clerks initially thought couples would be able to wed as early as Saturday, June 14. The court's decisions typically take effect 30 days after they are made.

ALBANY, N.Y. (AP) - Samesex marriages legally performed elsewhere will be recognized in New York in response to a state court ruling this year, Gov. David Paterson's spokeswoman said Wednesday.

State agencies, including those governing insurance and health care, must immediately change policies and regulations to make sure "spouse," "husband" and "wife" are clearly understood to include gay couples, according to a memo sent earlier this month from the governor's counsel.

Gay marriage is not legal in New York, and the state's highest court, the Court of Appeals, has said it can only be legalized by the Legislature. But the memo, based on a Feb. 1 New York Appellate Division court ruling, would recognize the



marriages of New Yorkers who are legally wed elsewhere.

The guidelines from Janet Mc-Kee, chief of California's office of vital records, to the state's 58 county clerks also contained copies of new marriage forms that include lines for "Party A" and "Party B" instead of bride and groom. The gender-neutral nomenclature was developed in consultation with county clerks, according to the letter.

"Effective June 17, 2008, only the enclosed new forms may be issued for the issuance of marriage licenses in California," the directive reads.

A group opposed to gay marriage has asked the court to stay its decision until after the November election, when voters are likely to face a ballot initiative that would once again define marriage as a union between a man and a woman. Passage of the initiative would overrule the Supreme Court.

Under the Supreme Court's regular rules of procedure, justices have until the end of the day June 16 to rule on the stay request, according to the memo sent by email to county clerks. Lawyers involved in the marriage case have said previously the court could grant itself an extra 60 days to consider the stay.

NASA begins releasing robotic arm of Mars lander

TUCSON, Ariz. (AP)—Scientists began releasing the robotic arm on NASA's new Mars spacebecause of a radio problem.

The Phoenix lander, which arrived on Mars on Sunday, is in excellent shape, said project manager Barry Goldstein. He said the communications glitch was only a blip in the robot's three-month exploration of the planet's northern arctic region.

The outage occurred Tuesday in one of two NASA satellites circling Mars when a radio shut off before it could relay commands to the lander to get the 8-foot arm moving, Goldstein said.

The robotic arm was folded on the lander's science deck to protect it from the vibrations of the launch and landing. Before

Phoenix can flex its arm, it must low it to move side to side as well rotate its wrist to release the latches on its forearm and elbow wrist, which allows it to move its craft on Wednesday, one day late and "move it out in a staircase crucial scoop and digging device. fashion" to remove its protective sleeve, said robotic arm manager Bob Bonitz of NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory.

> Controllers sent the instructions on Wednesday to begin the two-day process. Goldstein said he hoped photos of the partially unfurled arm would be available Thursday.

> Phoenix's arm will eventually dig into the soil surrounding it, seeking ice believed to be within inches to a foot below the surface. It's part of the effort to study whether the site could have supported primitive life.

The robotic arm has four joints in all—two at the shoulder to alas up and down, an elbow and a

Phoenix has delighted scientists with the first-ever peek of the planet's northern arctic region since its landing Sunday onto relatively flat terrain containing few rocks. Twin rovers have been operating near the Martian equator since 2004.

Texas A&M University's Mark Lemmon, who is in charge of the lander's camera, said scientists are still investigating geometric patterns in the surface likely caused by the expansion and contraction of underground ice. Some areas immediately surrounding the lander would be designated a nodigging "natural preserve," Lemmon said.

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Visit www.scotts.com or www.miracle-gro.com or call the company at 1-888-295-0671 for instructions.

Or for other questions call the U.S. EPA hotline at 1-800-858-7378.



28 FRIDAY, MAY 30, 2008 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Asia



1 killed, 10 hurt in southern Philippines bombing

MANILA, Philippines (AP)— Police say a homemade bomb near the gates of a Philippine air force base in a southern city has killed a woman and wounded 10 other people. The bomb also damaged a lawmaker's office in a nearby

building. Police Chief Superintendent Jaime Caringal says the bomb went off Thursday outside the Edwin Andrews Air Base in Zamboanga city. He says it apparently was concealed in one of several bags of civilian commuters waiting for the flight of a C130 cargo plane. Caringal says nobody has claimed respon sibility for the powerful

blast, which damaged a number of parked cars and a lawmaker's office in a two-story building.

15 die, 56 hurt in Afghan truck accident

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)—A passenger truck ran off the road in a remote mountainous region of Afghanistan on Wednesday, killing 15 people and wounding 56, an official said. Four bomb attacks around the country killed one Afghan and one NATO soldier. The truck ran off the road in the northeastern province of Badakhshan. President Hamid Karzai ordered Afghan army helicopters to help evacuate the wounded to better hospitals in Kabul, the capital, but

bad weather was hindering that effort, said Abdul Mamoon Jalali, the provincial health director. Women and children were among the 15 people killed, he said.

China: Rebuilding after quake will be 'arduous'

CHENGDU, China (AP)—

Rebuilding China's devastated earthquake zone will be a long and arduous process, the government warned Wednesday in a signal to millions of survivors living in tents that there will be no quick return to normalcy from their upturned lives. Infrastructure problems from rehousing entire townships destroyed by the quake to digging channels to divert blocked riversare among the most pressing for officials more than two weeks after the disaster. In addition to trying to house some 5 million people left homeless by the May 12 quake, officials say hard-hit Sichuan province is still prone to landslides and the conditions are hampering recovery and reconstruction efforts.

Taiwan pushes for greater global role

BEIJING (AP)—The leader of Taiwan's new ruling party told Chinese President Hu Jintao that the self-governed island needs to have an international presence, but acknowledged Wednesday there would be no quick solution to long-standing disputes. The hourlong meeting between Hu and Wu Poh-hsiung, chairman of Taiwan's Nationalist Party, was the political climax of a trip meant to boost business ties. It marked a symbolic closing of the ranks between the rivals, whose ties have strengthened since Nationalist Ma Ying-jeou was elected as Taiwanese president in March.

World outraged over Myanmar's detention of Suu Kyi

YANGON, Myanmar (AP)— The world broke a self-imposed silence on Myanmar politics Wednesday, expressing anger at the military junta's decision to extend the detention of prodemocracy leader Aung San Suu Kyi days after foreign donors pledged millions to help cyclone victims. Several countries, including the United States, Britain and France, issued biting statements about the regime's order to keep the Nobel peace laureate under house arrest for a sixth year. "This measure testifies to the junta's absence of will to cooperate with the international community," French Foreign Minister Bernard Kouchner said in a statement.

US envoy: Disarming NKorea in 2008 a 'challenge'

BEIJING (AP)—The top U.S. envoy to nuclear talks with North Korea conceded Wednesday that the communist nation's disarmament would be difficult to achieve this year, clouding the future of the process given the looming change in the White House. "Completing everything by the end of the year will be a challenge and we need to see if it's going to be possible," U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Christopher Hill said after two days of meetings with North Korean nuclear envoy Kim Kye Gwan in Beijing.

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE FRIDAY, MAY 30, 2008 **29**

World

WORLD BRIEFS

3 shark attacks have Mexico resort area in panic ZIHUATANEJO, Mexico

(AP)—No one could even remember a shark attack along this resort-studded stretch of Mexican coast popular with surfers and Hollywood's elite. Many of the large predators had been pulled from the ocean by fishermen. So when sharks attacked three surfers in less than a month, two fatally, it was unthinkable. Burgess' International Shark Attack File records an average of only four fatal shark attacks around the world each year. This year, there has been at least one other recorded shark fatality outside Mexico—a 66-year-old triathlete killed at Solana Beach, Calif. The attacks around Zihuatanejo have puzzled experts and, alarmingly for local businesses, the mayhem is keeping tourists away.

Treaty seeks to ban cluster bombs within 8 years

DUBLIN, Ireland (AP)—Diplomats from more than 100 nations agreed on a treaty Wednesday to ban current types of cluster bombs and require the destruction of stockpiles within eight years. However, the talks did not involve the biggest makers and users of cluster bombs: the United States, Russia, China, Israel, India and Pakistan. And the pact leaves the door open for new types that could pick targets more precisely and contain self-destruct technology. Cluster munitions, fired by artillery or dropped from aircraft, scatter

dozens or hundreds of "bomblets" across an area as big as two football fields to attack concentrations of troops and vehicles. They have been used with devastating impact on battlefields around the globe. But critics complain the explosives often fail to detonate and later inflict a terrible cost on civilians, from farmers who strike bomblets in their fields to children who mistake them for playthings.

Ahmadinejad rival gets powerful post in Iran

TEHRAN, Iran (AP)—Iran's lawmakers overwhelmingly picked conservative Ali Larijani as parliament speaker Wednesday, sending another strong message of discontent with President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad's lead-

ership by boosting one of his likely challengers in elections next year. Larijani, the country's former top nuclear negotiator, has said he wants a less confrontational approach to the West and brings wide international experience to the influential speaker's post. His selection was the latest sign of dissatisfaction with the president's handling of Iran's economy—flush with oil revenue but still stumbling—and worries about the diplomatic impasse over Iran's program to develop nuclear technology.

Israeli defense chief says Olmert must step down

JERUSALEM (AP)—Israel's powerful defense minister on Wednesday called on Prime

Minister Ehud Olmert to step down amid a burgeoning corruption scandal and threatened to bring down the government if the Israeli leader does not comply. The ultimatum was the latest in a string of career-threatening challenges that Olmert has weathered during his two years in office. If Labor Party leader Ehud Barak carries out his promise to withdraw from Olmert's fragile coalition, new elections could usher in a government opposed to current peace talks with the Palestinians and Syria. Israeli prosecutors have been investigating tens of thousands of dollars in campaign contributions that Olmert collected from American donors in the years before he became prime minister in 2006.

Lebanese president reappoints prime minister

BEIRUT, Lebanon (AP)—Lebanon's new president on Wednesday asked outgoing Prime Minister Fuad Saniora to form a new Cabinet despite reservations by the Hezbollah-led opposition. President Michel Suleiman's appointment of Saniora had been practically ensured following a decision late Tuesday by the parliamentary majority to back him. In his first comments following his appointment, Saniora called on Lebanese to "heal the wounds" of the past and pledged to try and form a government for all of Lebanon. "I extend my hand to everyone, so that we can achieve for our country the prosperity we deserve," he said.



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950
Phone: (1-670) 664-3500/1 • Fax: (1-670) 234-5962
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NOTICE TO BIDDERS

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY (CPA) is inviting qualified contractors to submit their qualifications and bid proposals for ROTA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT RUNWAY 09/27 SHOULDER AND NEW GENERATOR, PHASE 2, PROJECT NO. CPA-RA-002-08

Sealed Proposals will be received at the office of the Acting Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, at 2:00 PM, FRIDAY, MAY 30, 2008, at which time and place the sealed proposals will be publicly opened and read.

The Project, in general, consists of providing paved shoulders for both sides of the existing 6,000 feet of runway, providing new electrical conduits and new edge light, providing new generator and fuel tank and constructing generator room, grading and earthworks, and other related works in accordance with the plans and specifications hereinafter as parts of the Contract Document.

Bidder's attention is called to the Bidder's Qualification Statement, Section LP-4 that a prospective bidder must submit it along with bid proposals. The CPA reserves the right to reject any or all Bidders and may reject the bidder based on unsatisfied bidder's qualification based on its best interest.

After receipt of bids the Owner will perform evaluation of the apparent lowest responsible and responsive bidder. The apparent low bidder will be subject to a thorough and comprehensive review of its qualifications and Bid Documents to ensure that they are "responsive and responsible." This review will include, but is not necessarily limited to previous project experience, financial capabilities, quality of equipment and personnel, bonding and insurance. In the event that the apparent lowest responsible and responsive bidder is determined unqualified or unsatisfied to the Owner based on the evaluation, the Owner will perform a secondary evaluation of the qualifications of the next apparent lowest responsible and responsive bidder until a qualified lowest bidder is determined.

The Project is being financed by funds from U.S. Federal Aviation Administration. The contract award, if it is to be made, will be made within sixty (60) calendar days from the receipt of bids. CPA reserves the right to hold the contract award for ninety (90) calendar days from the date of bid opening.

The contract period for construction of the project shall be in accordance with **Item G-I00-3.2 (Contract Time)** of the General Project Requirement of the Technical Specification. Liquidated damages shall be in accordance with **Item G-I00-3.4 (Liquidated Damages)** of the General Project Requirements and shall be assessed the contractor if the completion of the Project is delayed beyond the contract time without excuse.

All mechanics and laborers on the project shall be paid no less than the minimum wage rate established by the CNMI or the U.S. Secretary of Labor, whichever is higher. A copy of the Department of the Federal Labor Wage Rate Determination is included in Section 70-25 of the specifications.

Each bidder must complete, sign, and furnish the "Bidder's Statement on Previous Contracts Subject to EEO Clause", a "Certification of Non-segregated Facilities", and the "Assurance of Disadvantaged Business Enterprises Participation", as contained in the bid proposal documents, with the submission of the Bid Proposal.

A CD-Rom containing the bid proposal and contract documents including plans and specifications, may be obtained at the Office of the Acting Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, P.O. Box 501055, Saipan, MP 96950, upon the payment of **ONE HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS (\$150.00)** for each CD-Rom. This payment is nonrefundable. Payment shall be made in casher's check or U.S. postal money order payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

A pre-bid conference will be held at the CPA AIRPORT CONFERENCE ROOM, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, at 10:00 a.m., FRIDAY, MAY 16, 2008, to explain and clarify any questions regarding this project. All prospective bidders shall be required to attend. Questions should be submitted to the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, in writing, at least seven (7) days prior to the pre-bid conference.

Each proposal shall be on a form furnished by the Commonwealth Ports Authority. The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all bid proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Notice to Bidders; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding bid rejection or cancellation; or (c) sufficient justification exists that awarding the project contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said bids if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

The proposed contract is under and subject to Executive Order 11246, as amended by Executive Order 11375 dated October 13, 1977, and Section 60-1.4(b) of the regulations of the Secretary of Labor (41 CPR 60-1) as implemented by Section 152.61 of the Federal Aviation Regulations, and to the Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) and Federal Labor provisions.

The EEO requirements, labor provisions, and wage rates are included in the specifications and bid proposal documents available for inspection at the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

A contractor having 50 or more employees and any subcontractor having 50 or more employees and who may be awarded a contract of \$50,000 or more, will be required to maintain an affirmative action program, the standards for which are contained in the specifications. To be eligible for award, each bidder must comply with the affirmative action requirements.

In accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, minority business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit proposals in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, or national origin in consideration for an award of any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement.

Women will be afforded equal opportunity in all areas of employment. However, the employment of women shall not diminish the standards or requirements for employment of minorities.

Each bid shall be accompanied by either a bid bond by an U.S. Treasury listed surety company, a certified check, or a cashier's check in the amount not less than ten percent (10%) of the bid price. Checks shall be made payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

The proposed contract is under and subject to the foreign trade restrictions required by 49 CFR Part 30, Denial of Public Works Contracts to Supplier of Goods and Services of Countries that Deny Procurement Market Access to U.S. Contractors.

The Aviation Safety and Capacity Expansion Act of 1990 provides that preference be given to steel and manufactured products produced in the United States when funds are expended pursuant to a grant issued under the Airport Improvement Program.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

/s/ LEE C. CABRERA
Acting Executive Director

April 30, 2008



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

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FRANCISCO C. ADA/SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT GENERATOR AND POWER UPGRADE DESIGN-BUILD SERVICES CPA-SA-001-08

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting sealed proposals for the Design and Construction of the Saipan International Airport Generator and Power Upgrade on the Island of Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. It is the intent of CPA to expedite complete construction of this project.

The scope of work and proposal package will be available on Monday, May 12, 2008 at the Office of the Acting Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, 2nd Floor of the Arrival Building, upon the payment of **ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS** (\$100.00) for each. This payment is nonrefundable. Payment shall be made in cash, casher's check or U.S. postal money order made payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

No Pre-Proposal Conference will be held for this project. All questions must be submitted in writing to Mr. Lee C. Cabrera, CPA's Acting Executive Director or faxed to (670) 234-5962, no later than 4:30 p.m. Friday, May 23, 2008.

All proposals shall be sealed and marked on the cover package outside as follows: "Proposal for the Saipan International Airport Generator and Power Upgrade, Design/Build Services, CPA-SA-001-08." One original and four (4) copies of the proposal must be submitted no later than 4:30 P.M. LOCAL TIME, FRIDAY, MAY 30, 2008, to the Office of the Acting Executive Director at the Saipan International Airport.

The offerer shall submit with their proposal a letter of interest and Project Approach which details how the work will be accomplished by the proposer's team, given the time requirement and resources available as identified in their proposal.

Proposers shall also submit a separate statement of qualifications which should include résumés and experience. Note that either party of the design consultant/contractor team that submits a proposal cannot submit as a subcontractor on another proposal. However, only subcontractors may be included in multiple proposals by different design/build teams.

This procurement is made in accordance with the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations Section 3.6. Proposals will be evaluated and scored based on the following criteria:

Total cost for design and construction
 Qualifications of the principal(s) and assigned staff
 Experience of the firm on similar type projects
 Time frame for completion of the work
 Project Approach

The Project is being financed by funds from U.S. Federal Aviation Administration. The contract award, if it is to be made, will be made within sixty (60) calendar days from the receipt of bids. CPA reserves the right to hold the contract award for ninety (90) calendar days from the date of receipt of proposals. Award of a contract is contingent upon prior approval from FAA.

Each proposal shall be accompanied by either a proposal bond by an U.S. Treasury listed surety company, a certified check, or a cashier's check in the amount not less than five percent (5%) of the bid price. Checks shall be made payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

All responses to this RFP should take into account any and all taxes that will be charged to the proposer awarded the contract for the project, including excise tax. Proposers should also include in pricing performance and payment bonds that will be required for this project.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Request for Proposals; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding bid rejection or cancellation; or (c) sufficient justification exists that awarding the project contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said proposals if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

All proposals shall become the property of CPA.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

/s/ LEE C. CABRERA
Acting Executive Director

Date: May 8, 2008

30 FRIDAY, MAY 30, 2008 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Off The Wall

Skydiver's balloon takes off without him

NORTH BATTLEFORD, Saskatchewan (AP) -- A French skydiver's latest attempt to set a new free-fall record ended when his ride to the sky left without him.

The helium balloon Michel Fournier was going to use Tuesday to soar to the stratosphere detached from the capsule he was going to use to jump from 130,000 feet.

It happened after the balloon was

inflated on the ground at the airport in North Battleford, Saskatchewan. The balloon drifted away into the sky without the capsule.

A disappointed Fournier left the capsule and walked to the hanger. He was hugged by members of his supporters.

"It was like having a hammer over my head," he said later. "When it doesn't work like that

you just cannot think of anything. You just say, 'How come it didn't work?' "

The launch team members said static electricity may have caused a small shock which set off one of five charges designed to release the capsule from the balloon after the jump.

Fournier isn't giving up, saying he'll try again in August.

Student's perfect attendance results in new car

CONSTANTINE, Mich. (AP) -- Andria Baker has pretty much always been present. From the first day of kindergarten through her last day of high school, Baker somehow made it to school for every day of classes, despite colds and sports injuries. Why?

Man's wheelchair 'vanishes' while he

PLOVER, Wis. (AP) -- Jason Dorshorst thought somebody ripped off his \$4,000 wheel-chair in broad daylight while he washed his pickup truck. It turns out that a good Samaritan took it to keep it from being stolen.

is in the car wash

Dorshorst, 26, of Plover, washed his vehicle Monday at Speedy Clean Car Wash. He left the custom-made wheelchair outside the business so it wouldn't get wet during the six-minute cleaning.

It vanished in that short time. "My first thought was, "Why

"My first thought was, "Why would somebody ever do that?" said Dorshorst, who was injured in a 2003 motorcycle accident and needs a wheelchair to complete day-to-day tasks. "I've never heard of anyone's wheelchair disappearing."

He added, "It's pretty low for somebody to do that."

But Plover Policeman Brent Thauer said Wednesday the chair wasn't stolen.

A woman who arrived at the car wash while Dorshorst was inside saw the chair and assumed it was lost or abandoned, he said. Her father works with disabled people, and she grabbed the chair hoping he could find the rightful owner, Thauer said.

If she kept it up, her father promised her a car.

Baker kept up her end of the bargain, willing herself to go to school on those days when she felt under the weather. She notched her 13th year of uninterrupted classroom attendance with her final day at Constantine High School on Friday.

At a party Sunday, her father, Tim, presented the young woman with the keys to a new, \$17,000 Pontiac G6, complete with a "0 DAYS" personalized license plate.



COMPETITION FOR ENERGIZER BUNNY

In this photo released Tuesday, May 27, 2008 by Matsushita Electric Industrial Co., in Tokyo, robot Evolta on a pair of Panasonic's AA batteries climbs up a rope dangling from a crevice in Grand Canyon National Park, Ariz., on its way to moving up some 530 meters (1,740 feet) Saturday, May 24, 2008, in six hours and 46 minutes, according to Matsushita, which makes Panasonic brand products. The 17 centimeter (6.7 inch)-tall, 130 gram (5 ounce) imp-shaped robot is powered by new alkaline batteries which are being billed as the world's longest lasting, according to Guinness World Records.

OFFBEAT BRIEFS

Nude maid accused of really cleaning up

TAMPA, Fla. (AP) -- A nude maid is accused of really cleaning up at a Florida man's home. The Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office said a 50-year-old man hired the maid from the Internet on Friday to clean his Tampa home. Authorities said the woman arrived at the home in a one-piece, light colored dress. She took off the dress and cleaned the house for \$100-per-hour. Sheriff's office spokeswoman Debbie Carter said the man told deputies he left the maid alone in the bedroom to clean. When the man's wife came home from vacation, she discovered \$40,000 in jewelry missing from their bedroom. Police are investigating.

Omaha minor league game suspended by acid leak

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) -- A hydrochloric acid leak caused Wednesday's night's game between

the Omaha Royals and Oklahoma Redhawks to be suspended when the stadium was evacuated. Homes and businesses in the area around Rosenblatt Stadium, including the zoo, were evacuated when a rail car was reported leaking at a nearby yard. The Pacific Coast League game will be picked up where it left off, after the fourth inning, before Thursday's game.

Bear spotted taking a dip at the Hard Rock Hotel

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP) — Orlando police and wild-life officials were at Universal Studios, looking for a bear seen taking a dip in the pool at the Hard Rock Hotel. Reports said a security guard at the hotel called police early Wednesday morning when he spotted the bear on a security screen. The bear got out of the pool and was roaming the property. Wildlife biologist Mike Orlando said black bears are typically shy animals and that this one should not be a threat to residents in the area. The hotel has not been evacuated.

Science & Technology

Google shows off 'Android' software for mobile phones

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—

Google Inc. showed off its nearly completed mobile software system to about 3,000 computer programmers Wednesday, hoping to cultivate more services and advertising for people on the go.

Although brief, the demonstration at the Internet search leader's annual developer conference in San Francisco represented the most extensive public look so far at "Android" - an open-source platform being designed for "smart" phones and other mobile devices that surf the Web. Android was first announced nearly

seven months ago.

The bells and whistles unveiled Wednesday included: a way to unlock phones by drawing a specific shape on the touchscreen instead of entering a password; bookmarks for favorite Web sites on the device's home page; a "compass" tool that automatically roams with the phone while a user looks at photographic images of a city map; a magnifying tool to zoom in on Web content; and a mobile version of the video game "Pac Man."

The demonstration relied on touchscreen technology simi-

lar to Apple Inc.'s iPhone, but Android can also be tailored to work with a tracking ball, said Andy Rubin, who is overseeing the project.

While acknowledging the work on Android is nearly done, Rubin deflected a question about how much longer consumers will have to wait for a phone powered by the new software. Sticking to the timetable Google has used throughout the project, Rubin said Android will hit the market some time during the final six months of this year.

Japan urges limits on kids' cell phone use

TOKYO (AP)—Japanese youngsters are getting so addicted to Internet-linking cell phones that the government is warning parents and schools to set tighter limits.

The government is worried that elementary and junior high school students are getting sucked into cybercrimes, spending too much time exchanging mobile e-mail and suffering other negative effects of cell phone overuse, Masaharu Kuba, a government official overseeing the initiative, said Tuesday.

"Japanese parents are giving cell phones to their children without giving it enough thought," he said. "In Japan, cell phones have become an expensive toy."

The recommendations have been submitted from an education reform panel to Prime Minister Yasuo Fukuda's administration and were approved this week.

The panel is also asking Japanese makers to develop cell phones that can be used only for talk and global positioning, both of which can help ensure a child's safety. Most mobile

phones in Japan offer highspeed Internet access.

About one-third of Japanese sixth-graders have cell phones, while 60 percent of ninth-graders have them, according to the education ministry.

The panel said better Internet filtering is needed to protect children.

Some youngsters spend hours at night on e-mail with friends—and some cliques employ a "30-minute rule," in which a child who doesn't respond to e-mail within that timeframe gets picked on.

HELP FILE

By ROB PEGORARO (c) 2008, The Washington Post



Q: The four-gigabyte SDHC memory card I bought works fine in my Canon camera but doesn't work at all in my computer's built-in memory card reader.

A: This is the latest chapter in an old story: A popular technology evolves at the cost of "backwards compatibility" with older devices.

In this case, memory manufacturers wanted to expand the capacity of the SD (Secure Digital) cards used by most digital cameras and many other gadgets. This standard, developed at the end of the '90s, had maxed out at two gigabytes — not enough when a minute of video can take up 100 megabytes.

So the SD HC (short for high capacity) version arrived in 2006. These cards can store four to 32 GB apiece and fit in the same slots as other SD cards, but many older devices and card readers can't read them. In some cases, firmware updates from vendors can fix the problem, but in many others, there's nothing to be done. (See, for instance, memory-card vendor SanDisk's listings of compatible devices at sand-isk.com/SDHC.

If your devices have an SDHC

logo or their manuals specify SDHC compatibility, you're fine. Otherwise, stick with regular SD cards — and if your hardware predates 2004, you may also need to limit yourself to cards no bigger than one GB.

Q: I want to e-mail an Excel file to other people, but I want to make sure they can only read it and can't edit it.

A: The "information rights management" in recent versions of Excel can enforce that kind of restriction, but they require special Microsoft server software.

The easier, cheaper way to do this would be to upload the file to Google's free Google Docs site (docs.google.com), at which you can limit some users to read-only access while letting others edit your work, too

Q: Do any computers besides Mac laptops have backlit or otherwise illuminated keyboards?

A: It's amazing how many manufacturers have ignored this common-sense idea. ThinkPads from IBM and now Lenovo include a little LED atop the screen that lights up the keyboard, and some Dell models feature backlit keys to match those on Apple's MacBook Pro and MacBook Air. But most other companies don't seem to have noticed that it's a pain to type on a keyboard you can barely see

(You can notice this problem during keynote addresses at industry conferences, when reporters in the darkened room must hunch down to eyeball their keyboards while some suit on the stage drones through a presentation.)

You can, however, remedy this oversight with a cheap add-on: a small LED on a stalk or cable that plugs into one of your laptop's USB ports. Numerous manufacturers make these things, which sell for \$5 to \$20, depending on brand and store.

Q: I keep coming across random abbreviations in postings online like "FTW" that make little or no sense. Where can I look them up?

A: You can try a Web search for "what does (random abbreviation) mean?" But you may find it easier to consult a specialized dictionary site. Urban Dictionary (urbandictionary.com) is a decent resource, providing both explanations and context for these bits of jargon. Or try Abbreviations.com, which will also list technical terms matching a given sequence of capital letters.

"FTW" stands for "for the win" and equates to an exuberant expression of praise along the lines of "This is awesome!"

HTH. HAND. (Hope that helps. Have a nice day.)

SAIPAN TRIBUNE FRIDAY, MAY 30, 2008 **31**

Life & Style

SIS student Johnson exhibits artwork

jackie_delacruz89@yahoo.com JUNIOR REPORTER

eventeen-yearold Katy Johnson
just graduated
from the Saipan
International
School with valedictory honors
but it was not her
academic performance that was
recently on display at the Coffee
Care on Capital Hill.

For those who don't know, Johnson is also a creative soul, an outstanding artist specializing in pencil, colored pencil, and charcoal drawings and ceramics.

She recently had an exhibition of her work at the Coffee Care from May 17-23, 2008. The first night drew approximately 50 people to the exhibit, while the rest of the days were open to general admission. This event was free for the public.

Johnson said she has been interested in art since she was child but it was only in her sophomore year that she started drawing a lot.

"I enjoyed myself as I really



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Katy Johnson gives a short speech prior to the opening of her exhibit.

had a good time in the opening night. I felt like it was the beginning of my artistic career," said Johnson.



Visitors check out Katy Johnson's drawings during opening night at Coffee Care.





CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Katy Johnson's artwork on display inside the Capital Hill restaurant Coffee Care.





CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to our daughter Kristina Sablan Bermudes for making the Valedictorian at Marianas High School. We are so proud of you. We love you. Greetings come from your mom, dad and the family.



HAPPY 5TH BIRTHDAY

Megumi Fukushima, seventh from right, celebrated her 5th birthday yesterday with her K-4 classmates and K-5 schoolmates at Eucon International School and College. Photo above shows Fukushima with her K-4 classmates and teacher Hua Ping Bacon. Fukushima will turn 5 on June 9.



Ex-spokesman bashes Bush in new book

By JENNIFER LOVEN
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

WASHINGTON (AP)—In a shocking turnabout, the press secretary most known for defending President Bush on Iraq, Katrina and a host of other controversial issues produced a memoir damning of his old boss on nearly every level—from too much secrecy to a less-than-honest selling of the war to a lack of personal candor and an unwillingness to admit mistakes.

In the first major insider account of the Bush White House, one-time spokesman Scott McClellan calls the operation "insular, secretive and combative" and says it veered irretrievably off course as a result.

The White House responded angrily Wednesday to McClellan's confessional memoir, calling it self-serving sour grapes.

"Scott, we now know, is disgruntled about his experience at the White House," said current White House press secretary Dana Perino, a former deputy to McClellan. "We are puzzled. It is sad. This is not the Scott we knew."

McClellan was the White House press secretary from May 2003 to April 2006, the second of four so far in Bush's presidency.

He reveals that he was pushed to leave earlier than he had

planned, and he displays some bitterness about that as well as about being sometimes kept out of the loop on key decisionmaking sessions.

He excludes himself from major involvement in some of what he calls the administration's biggest blunders, for instance the decision to go to war and the initial campaign to sell that decision to the American people. But he doesn't spare himself entirely, saying, "I fell far short of living up to the kind of public servant I wanted to be.

He includes criticism for the reporters whose questions he fielded. The news media, he says, were "complicit enablers" for focusing more on "covering the march to war instead of the necessity of war."

And McClellan issues this disclaimer about Bush: "I do not believe he or his White House deliberately or consciously sought to deceive the American people."

But most everything else he writes comes awfully close to making just this assertion, all the more stunning coming from someone who had been one of the longest-serving of the band of loyalists to come to Washington with Bush from Texas.

The heart of the book concerns Bush's decision to go to war in Iraq, a determination McClellan says the president had made by early 2002—at least a

full year before the invasion—if not even earlier.

"He signed off on a strategy for selling the war that was less than candid and honest," Mc-Clellan writes in "What Happened: Inside the Bush White House and Washington's Culture of Deception."

The book, which had been scheduled for release on Monday, was being sold by bookstores on Wednesday after the publisher moved up its release amid intense media coverage of its contents. The book quickly vaulted to No. 1 on amazon. com's best-seller list.

McClellan says Bush's main reason for war always was "an ambitious and idealistic post-9/11 vision of transforming the Middle East through the spread of freedom." But Bush and his advisers made "a marketing choice" to downplay this rationale in favor of one focused on increasingly trumped-up portrayals of the threat posed by the weapons of mass destruction.

During the "political propaganda campaign to sell the war to the American people," Bush and his team tried to make the "WMD threat and the Iraqi connection to terrorism appear just a little more certain, a little less questionable than they were." Something else was downplayed as well, McClellan says: any discussion of "the possible



In this April 19, 2006 file photo, President Bush, right, walks with White House press secretary Scott Mc-Clellan at the White House in Washington, after McClellan announced that he is stepping down as White House press secretary.

unpleasant consequences of war—casualties, economic effects, geopolitical risks, diplomatic repercussions."

In Bush's second term, as news from Iraq grew worse, McClellan says the president was "insulated from the reality of events on the ground and consequently began falling into the trap of believing his own spin."

All of this was a "serious strategic blunder" that sent Bush's presidency "terribly off course."

"The Iraq war was not necessary," McClellan concludes.

Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Rodham Clinton referred to the book and its author while campaigning Wednesday in Rapid City, S.D., saying, "In this book this young man essentially apologizes for having been part of misleading America for three years."

Reporters in Los Angeles with John McCain, the Republicans' candidate for president, asked if he believed that Bush used propaganda or deception regarding the war in Iraq. "I have no information on that fact. I am glad for one that Saddam Hussein is no longer there," McCain said. He declined to comment on other assertions in the book, saying he had not read it.

McClellan draws a portrait of Bush as possessing "personal charm, wit and enormous political skill." He says Bush's administration early on possessed "seeds of greatness."

But McClellan ticks off a long list of Bush's weaknesses: someone with a penchant for self-deception if it "suits his needs at the moment," "an instinctive leader more than an intellectual leader" who has a lack of interest in delving deeply into policy options, a man with a lack of self-confidence that makes him unable to acknowledge when he's been wrong.

McClellan also writes exten-

sively about what he says is the Bush White House's excessive focus on "the permanent campaign."

"The Bush team imitated some of the worst qualities of the Clinton White House and even took them to new depths," he writes.

McClellan is most scathing on the topic of the administration's embrace of secrecy.

"The Bush administration lacked real accountability in large part because Bush himself did not embrace openness or government in the sunshine," he writes.

Three top Bush advisers come in for particularly harsh criticism.

McClellan calls Vice President Dick Cheney "the magic man" who "always seemed to get his way" and sometimes "simply could not contain his deep-seated certitude, even arrogance, to the detriment of the president."

Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, who was national security adviser earlier in Bush's presidency, "was more interested in figuring out where the president stood and just carrying out his wishes while expending only cursory effort on helping him understand all the considerations and potential consequences" of war. Rice "was somehow able to keep her hands clean, even when the problems related to matters under her direct purview," McClellan says, but he predicts that "history will likely judge her harshly."

And former Bush political guru Karl Rove "always struck me as the kind of person who would be willing, in the heat of battle, to push the envelope to the limit of what is permissible ethically or legally."

The White House was severely damaged by blunders beyond the war, McClellan says.

When Hurricane Katrina hit the Gulf Coast in August 2005, for instance, the administration went on autopilot "rather than seizing the initiative and getting in front of what was happening on the ground."

And Bush's drive to remake the Social Security program after his 2004 re-election failed in large part because the White House focused almost exclusively on "selling our sketchily designed plan" instead of doing behind-thescenes work with lawmakers.

McClellan explains his dramatic shift from defender to critic as a difficult act of personal contrition, a way, to learn from his mistakes, be true to his Christian faith and become a better person. He says he started the book to explain his role in the CIA leak case, in which some of his own words turned out to be what he called "badly misguided," though sincere at the time.

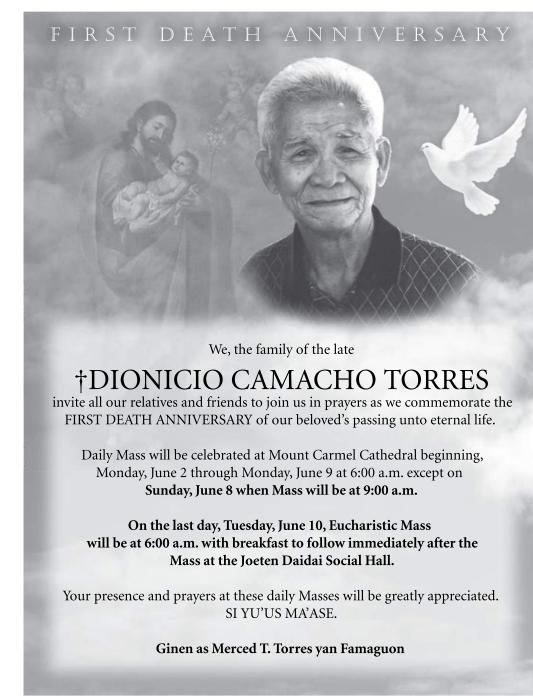
McClellan says Bush loyalists will no doubt continue to think the administration's decisions have been correct and its unpopularity undeserved. "I've become genuinely convinced otherwise," he says.

Indeed, former Bush aides joined current White House aides in expressing disbelief and disappointment at McClellan's account.

"Not once did Scott approach me—privately or publicly—to discuss any misgivings he had about the war in Iraq or the manner in which the White House made the case for war," McClellan's predecessor as press secretary, Ari Fleischer, said.

Said Fran Townsend, former head of the White House-based counterterrorism office and now a CNN commentator: "This now strikes me as self-serving, disingenuous and unprofessional."

Perino described Bush as "surprised" by the book but said the president wouldn't have anything to say about it. "He has more pressing matters than to spend time commenting on books by former staffers," she said.



P BEST SELLERS

NONFICTION

Audition, by Barbara Walters (Knopf: \$29.95) The pioneering newswoman's boldface-name life.

The Last Lecture, by Randy Pausch with Jeffrey Zaslow (Hyperion: \$21.95) A professor with terminal cancer urges us to seize life's moments.

A Remarkable Mother, by Jimmy Carter (Simon & Schuster: \$22.95) The life of the fiery Miss Lillian.

A Wolf at the Table, by Augusten Burroughs (St. Martin's: \$24.95) An exploration of a terrifying relationship between father and son.

Home, by Julie Andrews (Hyperion: \$26.95) The star of stage and screen tells of life before Mary Pop-

Just Who Will You Be? by Maria Shriver (Hyperion: \$14.95) Ask who, not what, you want to be.

The Soloist, by Steve Lopez (Putnam: \$25.95) The L.A. Times columnist befriends a mentally ill homeless musician.

Ladies of Liberty, by Cokie Roberts (William Morrow: \$26.95) Women who helped shape the young nation.

The Post-American World, by Fareed Zakaria (W.W. Norton: \$25.95) The Newsweek columnist argues the U.S. is no longer dominant in the global economy.

> Girls Like Us, by Sheila Weller (Atria: \$27.95) A generation of women seen through icons Carole King, Joni Mitchell and Carly Simon.

FICTION

The Host, by Stephenie Meyer (Little, Brown: \$25.99) A woman refuses to give in to alien invaders who take over the minds, but not the bodies, of humans.

Unaccustomed Earth, by Jhumpa Lahiri (Knopf: \$25) Stories of U.S.-born children and their Bengali parents straddling cultures.

Careless in Red, by Elizabeth George (Harper: \$27.95) A detective mourning his late wife stumbles upon the body of a young man.

The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao, by Junot Diaz (Riverhead: \$24.95) A sci-fi-loving nerd and his immigrant family are haunted by the past.

Phantom Prey, by John Sandford (Putnam: \$26.95) A wealthy widow returns home to find her hallway bloody and her Goth daughter missing.

The Plague of Doves, by Louise Erdrich (Harper: \$25.95) A North Dakota family's murder reverberates through four generations.

Sundays at Tiffany's, by James Patterson and Gabrielle Charbonnet (Little, Brown: \$24.99) A woman's invisible friend from childhood returns.

Lush Life, by Richard Price (Farrar, Straus & Giroux: \$26) A shooting shatters a New York neighborhood.

The Miracle at Speedy Motors, by Alexander McCall Smith (Pantheon: \$22.95) Mma Ramotswe helps a woman find her identity.

Hold Tight, by Harlan Coben (Dutton: \$26.95) Killings engulf a troubled New Jersey family.

© 2008 Los Angeles Times

National Spelling Bee favorites are friendly rivals

WASHINGTON (AP)—Tia Thomas flipped through her note cards and said: "OK, I'm going to stump you."

"Loucheux," she said with a sly smile.

Matthew Evans was unfazed by the word that describes a Native American tribe: "L-o-u-c-he-u-x.'

Tia threw her note cards on the table and folded her arms.

"And that was supposed to be one that stumped me!" Matthew said with a hint of bravado.

The pair of home-schooled 13year-olds are the veterans of this week's Scripps National Spelling Bee, the only competitors who have made it this far four times before. They're among the favorites to win: The only returning speller who finished ahead of Tia last year is Matthew.

Their friendly rivalry has reached its fifth and final year as they age out of the competition.

"Actually, he is the person that I'm most anxious to beat this year," said Tia, from Coarsegold, Calif. "I really want to win this year."

"That would be a little disappointing," said Matthew, from Albuquerque, N.M. "But if she wins, that means she probably prepared better than me."

Tia and Matthew met Wednesday at the eighth-floor lobby of the posh downtown hotel that is hosting the 81st edition of the competition. The bee begins in earnest Thursday with a record 288 spellers competing in the oral preliminary round and concludes Friday night with a prime-time finish on ABC.

Should either Tia or Matthew

†Pedro Dela Cruz Pangelinan

†Ruth Margaret I. Pangelinan

Magdalena Nakatsukasa Maratita

Madelaine Maratita Pangelinan

Eddie Q. & Consuelo M. Reyes

win, the other will deserve a big thank you. They have been comparing notes via instant messaging every Friday night in the months leading up to the bee. Their two families went out to dinner Tuesday night, a meal that was flush with a very rich vocabulary.

"There's definitely some pressure involved when the stakes are higher," said Tia's mother, Pamela Thomas. "It's her last year and Matthew's last year, and they've been friends for a long time and they both want to win. They're both extremely competitive."

Neither Matthew nor Tia made it out of the preliminary round their first two years, but in 2006 both decided to apply themselves more. Matthew has since finished 14th and sixth, while Tia has

placed 22nd and eighth.

Since last year, Matthew has combed the dictionary and made a list of 30,000 of the toughest words. Neatly typed, they fill four 2-inch-thick binders. He also has an eight-page list of what he calls "the trickiest homonyms of the dictionary."

It's a long way from when Matthew started asking about the letters on his cereal bowl at the age of 18 months.

"If there's anything I've learned working with Matthew," Helen Evans said, "is that there's a word for everything."

"Defenestration," chimed in Matthew. "It means the act of throwing someone out of a window."

"There's actually a word for that!" his mother said. "Doesn't that kind of blow you away?"

DEATH AND FUNERAL ANNOUNCEMENT

†EMERY JOSEPH INOS PANGELINAN

Born to Eternal Life: March 19, 1977 Called to Eternal Life: May 26, 2008

of San Antonio Village, Saipan was called to eternal home by our Lord at the age of 31.

Predeceased by:

Father:

Sister: Maternal Grandparents: Maternal Auntie: Maternal Uncle:

†Emilio A. & †Augustina Q. Inos †Magdalena M. Inos †Gregorio Q. & †Patrick Q. Inos Paternal Uncle: †Norbert DLC. Pangelinan) Paternal Auntie: †Agnes P. Deleon Guerrero

Predeceased by in-laws:

Grandmother: Auntie:

Uncles:

Remedio N. Basa Herman T. Nakatsukasa, Juan N. Maratita, Jeffrey N. Maratita, Johannes N. Maratita

Survived by: Mother:

Wife:

Sons: Parents-in- law:

Paternal Grandparents:

Grandfather-in-law:

Godparents:

Hilarion R. & Maxima DLC. Pangelinan Thomas C. Maratita David & Rosa Ayuyu; Henry & Ana Indalencio; Juan Q. & Julie R. Inos

Judith Inos Pangelinan

Brothers/Spouse & Children: Nobert I. & Juliana I. Pangelinan (Nikana Jumae & Nobert Jr.)

Donavan Joshua M. Pangelinan & Pedro DLC. Pangelinan II

Shawn I. Pangelinan

Gregg Davin P. Sasamoto (Brandon Darrion)

Eddie Jr. M. Reyes/Jodie Ann Inos and Peter John M. Reyes

Maternal Uncle & Auntie:

Brothers-in-law:

Thomas M. & Laura I. Manglona, Children & Families Juan Q. & Julie R. Inos, Children & Families

Paternal Uncles & Aunties:

Juan D. Cruz

Henry DLC. & Matilde L. Pangelinan, Children & Families Francisco C. & †Agnes P. Deleon Guerrero, Children & Families Martin DLC. & Frances Dlr. Pangelinan, Children & Families Francisco A. & Ruth P. Ada, Children & Families Oscar DLC.& Frannie B. Pangelinan, Children & Families John T. & Rebecca P. Santos, Children & Families Allen & Brenda P. Manibusan, Children & Families Laureon DLC. & Vera T. Pangelinan, Children & Families

Additionally survived by numerous nephews, nieces, aunts, uncles, and cousins.

Holy Mass is being offered at Saint Jude Church, Koblerville at 6:00 pm followed by the rosary. On Tuesday, June 03, 2008 at 7:30 a.m. our beloved EJ will be escorted from Cabrera Funeral Home to St. Jude Church for viewing and last respect. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11:00 a.m. Interment Service will follow at the Chalan Kanoa Cemetery.

Judith I. Pangelinan, Children and Families Madelaine, Donovin and Pedro II

800-word Harry Potter prequel to be auctioned

LONDON (AP)—An 800-word Harry Potter prequel is one of 13 card-sized works to be sold at a charity auction in the British capital. Waterstone's Booksellers Ltd. says the creamcolored A5 papers—each slightly bigger than a postcard—were distributed to 13 authors and illustrators, including the boy wizard's creator J.K. Rowling, Nobel Prize winner Doris Lessing, novelist Margaret Atwood and playwright Tom Stoppard.

Rowling used both sides of her card to handwrite a prequel to her seven-book Harry Potter saga, while Lessing penned a story about the power of reading. Stoppard wrote a short mystery and Atwood was due to fill out her card remotely using a robotic arm controlled by computer linkup.

Other cards were completed by children's author Michael Rosen, illustrator Axel Scheffler, graphic novelist Neil Gaiman, Lisa Appignanesi, Richard Ford, Lauren Child, Irvine Welsh, Sebastian Faulks and Nick Hornby, who plastered his card with a collage.

The cards will go on sale at the "What's Your Story?" auction at Waterstone's flagship store in central London on June 10. The proceeds are to go to English PEN, the writers' association, and the British charity Dyslexia Action. Copies of the cards will be collated into a book to be made available at the bookstore and online in August.

Organizers refused to comment on the content of Rowling's Harry Potter prequel, but Hogwarts fans hoping for another book to add to their collection may be disappointed by her signoff.

"From the prequel I am not working on—but that was fun!" Rowling wrote.

Rowling has previously said she had no plans to write another Potter novel, but in December she sold a handwritten, leather-bound book of fairy tales she described as drawing on the series' themes, for nearly \$4 million at auction. The money went to The Children's Voice, a charity Rowling co-founded in 2005.

Judge approves Madonna's adoption

LILONGWE, Malawi (AP)-A judge on Wednesday approved Madonna's adoption of a Malawian boy she met in an orphanage in 2006.

The 49-year-old pop star wasn't in court for the ruling, which took Justice Andrew Nyirenda an hour to read. Nyirenda said he was satisfied that Madonna and her British filmmaker husband, Guy Ritchie, "are perfect parents" for David, who will be 3 in November.

Madonna and Ritchie have been caring for David in London.

"It's now official, David is Madonna's baby," the singer's Malawian lawyer, Alan Chinula, told reporters.

David's mother died when he was a month old. His father, Yohane Banda, has said he believed he could not care for him alone, and that placing him in an orphanage was the best way to ensure David's survival. The father has said he didn't object to the adoption.

Yohane Banda said Wednesday he was glad the adoption was successful.

"I am glad it's all over," said the 33-year-old farmer, who ekes out a living growing tomatoes, maize and onions. "I am glad David has a new, good home."

Critics had accused Madonna



In this April 17, 2007 file photo, Madonna holds her adopted son David Banda in her arms as her daughter Lourdes, looks on, at the Home of Hope orphanage in Mchinji, Malawi.

of using her celebrity status to circumvent Malawian adoption laws—allegations she denies.

Malawian law is fuzzy on foreign adoptions. Regulations stipulate only that prospective parents undergo an 18- to 24month assessment period in Malawi, a rule that was bent when Madonna was allowed to take David to London.

Speaking to reporters last week at the Cannes Film Festival, Madonna said the criticism hurt.

"It was a big struggle, and I didn't understand it," she said, comparing the process to the pain of childbirth. "But in the end I rationalized that, when a woman has a child and goes through natural childbirth, she

(also) suffers an enormous amount."

Madonna and Ritchie also have a son, Rocco, 7, and Madonna has a daughter, Lourdes, 11.

Madonna met David while establishing charity projects in Malawi. She is funding her own and six other orphanages in the country.

Her Raising Malawi organization also announced that the singer is funding a multimilliondollar academy for disadvantaged children in Malawi.

"I Am Because We Are," a new documentary that Madonna produced and narrated, shows poverty and disease devastating the lives of Malawi's children, and urges people to volunteer.

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For Friday, May 30 through Thursday, June 5 only!

NOW SHOWING Sex and The City



4:15 7:00 9:45 4:15 7:00 9:45 1:15 4:15 7:00 Mon thru Thurs

Sarah Jessica Parker, Kim Cattrall Comedy, Romance • Rated R



What Happens in Vegas

4:05 7:05 9:50 1:25 4:05 7:05 Mon thru Thurs

Cameron Diaz, Ashton Kutcher Romantic Comedy • Rated PG-13



Indiana Jones: Kingdom of the Crystal Skull

4:25 7:15 10:00 Friday 1:30 4:25 1:30 4:25 7:15 10:00 7:15 Saturday 1:30 Sunday Mon thru Thurs 4:25 7:15 Harrison Ford, Cate Blanchett

Set in the desert Southwest in 1957—at the height of the Cold Wa agents on a remote airfield. Now, Professor Jones has returned home to only to find things have gone from bad to worse. His close him the object of suspicion, and that the government has put pressure on the



Forbidden Kingdom

Action Adventure • Rated PG-13

4:30 7:20 9:35 1:10 4:30 7:20 9:35 1:10 4:30 7:20 4:30 7:20 Mon thru Thurs

Jet Li, Jackie Chan



Iron Man

4:00 7:25 9:55 1:00 4:00 7:25 9:55 Mon thru Thurs

Robert Downey Jr., Gwyneth Paltrow



Speed Racer

Sunday Mon thru Thurs 1:20 4:10 4:10 Emile Hirsch, Susan Sarandon

Action Adventure • Rated PG



Made of Honor

9:30 9:30 4:20 Mon thru Thurs 4:20 @ Patrick Dempsey, Michelle Monaghan

Romantic Comedy • Rated PG-13 Baby Mama



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CELEBRITY EXTRA

By CINDY ELAVSKY © 2008 KING FEATURES SYND., INC.

Q: My roommate told me that Jimmy Fallon is going to replace Conan O'Brien on the "Late Show." Is that true? If so, where will Conan be going? He's not leaving late-night television, is he? -Justine B., via email

A: Jimmy Fallon will indeed be filling Conan O'Brien's very big shoes come 2009—that is when Conan will be taking over hosting duties from Jay Leno on "The Tonight Show." Jimmy is ready for the challenge, as he told reporters that he recently hit the stand-up circuit again to hone his comedic talents in front of a live audience. "I'm very excited about this," Jimmy said. "It's going to be a grind, but I'm ready to work really hard."

Q: Years ago I saw a show that was in the mood/ theme of "The Twilight Zone" or an Alfred Hitchcock thriller. The setting is a prison. One of the prisoners works in the prison morgue. He becomes good friends with the undertaker. The prisoner makes a deal with the undertaker to help him escape. When the next prisoner dies, he will sneak into the casket with the body. Then after they bury the prisoner, the undertaker will come back and dig him up and, voila—he is a free man!

When the bell rings in the prison chapel to signal a recent death, the prisoner gets into the casket with the dead



Jimmy Fallon

body, is carried out to the graveyard and is buried. He waits and waits for the undertaker to dig him up. Nobody comes. Finally, he finds a match and lights it to see that the undertaker is the dead person who is in the casket with him! -J.A. in

A: I knew exactly what you were talking about by the fourth sentence. I remember seeing that episode as a kid, and it has stuck with me ever since. The show is "Alfred Hitchcock Presents," and the episode was called "Final Escape." The 1955 version can be found on DVD. The revamped 1985 version (which is the one I remember) can be seen on the cable/satellite network called Chiller.

Q: Will "Dog the Bounty Hunter" be back on A&E anytime soon? - Sheila, Port Charlotte, Fla.

A: In May, A&E announced that "Dog the Bounty Hunter," starring Duane "Dog" Chapman, would resume production and return to the small screen starting June 25. At first, reruns will air, followed a few weeks later by new epi-

. . . Q: Are actors Bryan **Brown and Rachel Ward** still married? How did they meet? -W.H. Cooper, Decatur, Ala.

A: Bryan and Rachel met on the set of 1983's "The Thorn Birds," where he played Luke O'Neill, Meggie's (Rachel's character) husband during an unhappy three-year marriage. Things have gone much better for the couple in real life, however, as they married in April 1983, have three children and remain together and happy today.

Police arrest 50 Cent employee

FARMINGTON, Conn. (AP)—Police said an employee of 50 Cent was arrested for allegedly attacking a woman at the rapper's mansion.

Police said Dwayne McKenzie, 27, was arrested Tuesday after they received a call from the 22-year-old New Britain woman.

McKenzie was charged with assault, strangulation, breach of peace and unlawful restraint.

He was released after posting \$10,000 bond and is due back in court July 15.

Police said McKenzie allegedly choked the woman and struck her with a belt during an argument on 50 Cent's property.

Court records show McKenzie was on conditional discharge from an arrest in Hartford for allegedly pistolwhipping a nightclub promoter.

After 'Idol,' television audience disperses

NEW YORK (AP)—The 31.66 million people who watched the "American Idol" finale surely will be the largest audience gathered before a single TV show for several months.

During the TV season's final week, viewers flocked to the family-friendly finales of Fox's "Idol" and ABC's "Dancing With the Stars," according to Nielsen Media Research. (And, for the whole season, Fox captured the distinction as the nation's most popular TV network for the first time since it began operation in 1987.) No other show topped 20 million viewers.

Summer series were quick to appear on the schedule, and no immediate excitement was obvious.

Among dancing, dating and joking, give an edge to the hoofers. Fox's "So You Think You Can Dance" premiered to 8.7 million viewers, ABC's "The Bachelorette" had 8.1 million and NBC's "Last Comic Standing" had 5.8 million people watching.

For the week, Fox averaged 12.5 million viewers (7.3 rating, 13 share), CBS had 8.5 million and ABC 8.4 million (both 5.6, 10), NBC 5.3 million (3.5, 6), the CW 2.2 million (1.4, 2), My Network TV 920,000 (0.6, 1) and ION Television 310,000 (0.2, 0).

Among the Spanish-language networks, Univision led with 3.4 million viewers (1.7 rating, 3 share), Telemundo had 950,000 (0.6, 1), TeleFutura 660,000 (0.4, 1) and Azteca 200,000 (0.1, 0).

NBC's "Nightly News" topped the evening newscasts with an average of 8.1 million viewers, while ABC's "World News Now" had 7.8 million (both 5.5, 12). By one-hundredth of a ratings point, the "CBS Evening News" set another record low with 5.33 million viewers (3.8, 8).

Ashlee will take Wentz name

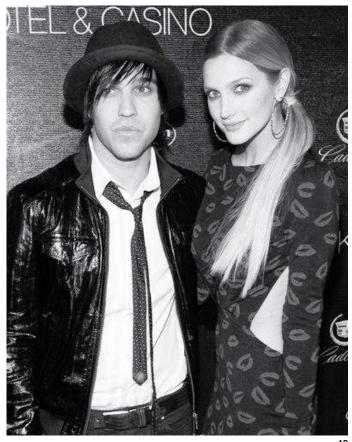
LOS ANGELES (AP)—Ashlee Simpson is so over. The newlywed pop singer will go by Ashlee Wentz in private, and be professionally known as Ashlee Simpson-Wentz, according to a report posted Wednesday on People. com. The heretofore Simpson was married on May 17 to Fall Out Boy bassist Pete Wentz.

"I think that that's something that a woman should do when they're marrying a man," the pop star lil'sis of Jessica Simpson told the magazine. "It's a tradition that I think is a great tradition."

Phone and e-mail messages left with Simpson-Wentz's publicist regarding the name change were not immediately returned.

Simpson-Wentz, 23, and Wentz, 28, exchanged vows earlier this month at her parents home in Encino, Calif. Joe Simpson, her father, performed the non-denominational ceremony and sister Jessica was the maid of honor, the magazine earlier reported.

Simpson-Wentz and Wentz began dating in fall 2006 and announced their engagement April 9.



In this Sept. 8, 2007 file photo, Ashlee Simpson and her boyfriend Pete Wentz, of the band Fall Out Boy, arrive together at the Rolling Stone 40th anniversary party in Las Vegas.

Kirk Douglas dedicate LA school playground



Gary Dourdan won't go to jail for drug charges

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Gary Dourdan won't do time. The "CSI" co-star pleaded guilty to two of three counts of felony drug possession Wednesday but will not face prison following his drug arrest outside of Palm Springs last month, according to his lawyer. Dourdan could have served up to three years and eight months behind bars.

"Once Gary completes 30 hours of a diversion program, his case will be entirely dismissed," lawyer Shawn Chapman Holley told The Associated Press in an e-mail. "There is no jail time involved."

The 41-year-old actor was arrested after police found him asleep in his car outside of Palm Springs on April 28. He was allegedly parked on the wrong side of the street with the car's interior light on. Dourdan was charged with felony possession of heroin, cocaine and ecstasy.

Dourdan has played crime scene investigator Warrick Brown on CBS' "CSI" since 2000. The character was recently shot and killed during the eighth season finale.

400th playground renovation to schools in the Los Angeles Unified School District.

AP

LOS ANGELES (AP)-Kirk

Douglas and his wife have dedi-

cated their 400th school play-

ground—completing a decade-

long effort to give Los Angeles

The 91-year-old actor took

a ride down a slide during the

unveiling Wednesday at a Los

Douglas and his wife, Anne,

created a foundation that has

provided more than \$8 million to

build or refurbish play areas in the

Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger

was on hand for the dedication

and praised Douglas and his

wife for their efforts. The gover-

nor and Douglas worked togeth-

er in a 1979 movie called "The

Villain" and have remained

Actor Kirk Douglas tries-out a

playground slide at Lillian El-

ementary School in Los Angeles

Wednesday, May 28, 2008, af-

ter he and his wife donated their

friends for three decades.

Los Angeles school district.

Angeles elementary school.

kids a place to frolic.

In this May 23, 2007 file photo, Gary Dourdan, co-star from the television series "CSI: Crime Scene Investigation," is shown in Chicago.

Autograph hound is curious breed to puzzled bystander

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

DEAR ABBY: Please answer a question that has me perplexed. Why do people collect autographs?

I do not understand the need for a collection of signatures, regardless of how famous—or infamous—the person may be. I have never had the need to brag or show proof that I encountered "someone." In fact, I feel it's a breach of a person's privacy to approach and ask for a signature.



DearAbby

I realize that some may collect autographs for their monetary value, but what's the reasoning behind it? Book signings, I get. Movie posters, promotional items, baseball cards and sports memorabilia, I get. But I don't understand adults (and sometimes children) approaching someone famous and asking them to sign something.

Can you explain what's the big deal?

—NO AUTOGRAPH HOUND, PONTOTOC, MISS.

DEAR NO AUTOGRAPH HOUND: While I can't speak for every autograph collector, I suspect that many people ask for autographs because it provides them an opening to speak to someone whose work they admire or whom they think is attractive. And most celebrities—although not all—enjoy having that kind of contact with their fans.

DEAR ABBY: I have been seeing "Kevin" for two years. I love him very much. But when we are at home together I have to beg to make him hug or kiss me.

I know he loves me; he just doesn't like affection. In the past, girlfriends have broken up with him over this. Abby, I need more physical contact! Is this normal, or is there something wrong?

—CRAVING IN DENVER

DEAR CRAVING: It's not normal. While some men are more affectionate than others, you should not have to "beg" for affection. Eventually Kevin's behavior will make you begin to question your attractiveness.

Please understand that you cannot change another person. If this is how you want to live the rest of your life, keep seeing Kevin. If not, take a clue from his former girlfriends and find someone who can give you the affection you crave.

DEAR ABBY: I have a relative who is spoiled, immature, disrespectful to her parents and has done nothing productive in her life. I have spent time with this person because I had to; however, I do not love her. The fact is, I don't even like her.

My question is, what would I say to someone who asks me if I love that relative? What can I say that is not hurtful—but not lie either?

—PERPLEXED IN PENNSYLVANIA

DEAR PERPLEXED: Frankly, I find it odd and somewhat intrusive that someone would ask you that question. However, if you are confronted, be honest (up to a point) and say that although you are related, you are not close. Then change the subject.

DEAR ABBY: Your response to "Livonia, Mich., Reader" (April 27) was ALMOST correct. Please allow me to clarify.

Every law school graduate is awarded a J.D. (Juris Doctor) regardless of his/her performance on the bar exam. However, only graduates who PASS the bar exam can be called Esquire (Esq.) Simply put, J.D. is the degree; Esq. is the qualification to practice law.

—FORMER LEGAL SECRETARY

DEAR FORMER LEGAL SECRETARY: I had relied on my dictionary for the answer to that question. Thank you for educating me—to a "degree."

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

To receive a collection of Abby's most memorable – and most frequently requested – poems and essays, send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$6 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby – Keepers Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price)

36 FRIDAY, MAY 30, 2008 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes



RUMBLE



By Eugene Sheffer

23 One of

24 Valhalla

25 Reduce,

26 Revue

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29 Vobiscum

32 Oriental

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16 Dracula's 35 Pea soup

20 Tin Man's 38 Thick

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36 Doorway

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Garfield®







By Jim Davis

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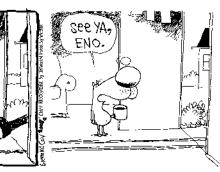




By Bryan Basset

By Bill Waterson

The Duplex





By Glenn McCoy

Adam@home



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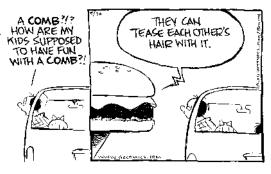
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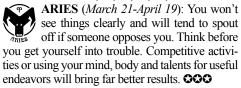
honcho

accessory



CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Blake Bashoff, 27; Cee-Lo, 34; Wynonna Judd, 44; Michael J. Pollard, 69

Happy Birthday: You'll be able to solve a difficult situation. Facing facts and making abrupt moves that will position you better will all lead to winning this year. Knowing what you want and going after it will bring you the satisfaction that drives you onward and upward. This can be a spectacular year for you. Rely on your own strength and courage. Your numbers are 6, 11, 18, 22, 31, 42



TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Someone looking for a quick response may put pressure on you. Do research so vou don't miss out, but don't move forward based on hearsay only. Opportunity is apparent but only if you follow proper procedures.

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): You are the grand master when it comes to the art of manipulation today. You can wheel-anddeal to your heart's content. A group that can introduce you to exclusive individuals will lead to a partnership.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Don't be stubborn or refuse to listen to what others have to contribute. Overreacting will be your downfall. There is an opportunity to advance but, if you can't get along with your peers or superiors, you won't be considered for the position.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): You are a confident leader who can easily take control and make things happen. You will impress others if you are passionate about your beliefs and intentions. Present and promote your ideas and enjoy the moment. 2000

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): You may have a good plan but, if someone wants you to front the cost, go it alone or back away. A fast-talking individual will be very convincing. Keep your wits about you and refrain from making any contractual agreements for now. 🛇 🛇 🔾

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Love is all around you so don't sit at home alone where no one can appreciate who you are or what you have to offer. Get out and get involved. An imaginative outlook will let others see you in a way you've never disclosed before. •••

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Put your money and your patience behind making alterations at home. With a few minor adjustments you will save time, allowing you to be far more productive in all areas of your life. Go

for it. OOO SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Do things differently and you will attract interest in what you are trying to accom-

plish. Tidying up something you've been working on will bring you the success you are looking for. Idle time will be your enemy. **2000**

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Someone vou

Sudoku is a number-placing

puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with

several given numbers. The

object is to place the numbers

1 to 9 in the empty squares so

that each row, each column

and each 3x3 box contains the

same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis

Sudoku increases from Mondav

to Saturday.

EUGENIA

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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don't expect trouble from will question everything you do. Don't take it personally—it's him or her, not you, who needs to

can be closed if you take a power position. �� AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Take what's dealt to you and play strategically. Change will be necessary but to your benefit in the end. Love is present so plan something special if you are involved or get out and

rethink what's going on. A deal that is on the table

meet someone new, if you aren't. **QQQQ** PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Be careful what you say to whom. Your words will be used against you in the strangest way, leaving you without recourse. Don't be limited by your own stubbornness. Admit a mistake if

Birthday Baby: You are aggressive, competitive and a humanitarian. You welcome a challenge and will never back down to anything or anyone. You stand for justice and fair play.

Eugenia's Web sites: astroadvice.com for fun, eugenialast.com for confidential consultations

Francisco need vears 21 Solidify 22 Circus tent 26 Vision 29 Rep. Dem. 30 Greek mountain 31 Gordius' puzzler 32 Remu-

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STUMPED?

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Difficulty Level ★★★★

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Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

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5/30

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WONDERWORD

LOVING GIFTS

you make one.

By DAVID **OUELLET**

Solution: 8 letter

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below CIRCLE THEIR tally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and LETTERS ONLY, DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The l

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Yesterday's Answer: Emotions

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FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL

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> WHATZIT Solution: Jumping to conclusions

PICK UP plus BOAT and GERERATOR for SALE



TIMOTHY H. BELLAS

Attorney-at-Law Bank of Hawaii Bldg., Suite 203 P.O. Box 502845 Saipan, MP 96950

Telephone: (670) 323-2115; Fax 323-2116

ATTORNEY FOR: Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

PACIFIC ASSET CORPORATION, Plaintiff

) CIVIL ACTION) NO. 06-0179 SUMMONS

vs.
ANA MARIA B.
HOFSCHNEIDER,
THE ESTATE OF HENRY
LAMBERT UNTALAN
HOFSCHNEIDER,
and DOES I-X

TO: ANA MARIA B. HOFSHCNEIDER,

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any Answer you wish to make to the Complaint attached hereto, within Twenty (20) days after service of this Summons upon you and deliver or mail a copy of your Answer to TIMOTHY H. BELLAS, at P.O. Box 502845, Saipan, MP 96950 immediately after filing your Answer with the Clerk of the CNMI Superio

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of the CNMI Superior Court, whose office is located on the first floor of the Guma Husticia Bldg., Civic Center, Susupe, Saipan. This may be done by you or your attorney, but it is not necessary for you to appear personally unless you are notified to do

If you fail to file an Answer within the time specified above, the allegations of the Complaints will be deemed admitted and the Court will enter a default judgement against you. Dated this 21st day of April, 2006.

/s/ By: Deputy Clerk of Court

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MD. NAZRUL ISLAM

JESUS C. BORJA

Attorney at Law Post Office Box 505889 Saipan, MP 96950-5889 Telephone: 234-8848 Fax:234-8848 E-mail: jcborja@itecnmi.com Attorney for Petitioner

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

CIVIL ACTION

NOTICE OF

HEARING ON PETITION FOR

PROBATE OF WILL AND NOTICE TO

CREDITORS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE

OF

LOURDES ARRIOLA TENORIO

Deceased

TO: THE HEIRS, GENERAL PUBLIC DECEDENT OR OF HER ESTATE.

You are hereby notified that:
1. On June 10, 2008, at 1:30 p.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter can be heard, at the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Courtroom 217A. Consolacion Tenorio Kaufer, by and through her attorney, Jesus C. Borja, will petition the above court for an order directing her, as Executrix, to proceed with the probate of the last will and estament of Lourdes Arriola Tenorio, deceased and for all other proper orders. All interested parties should appear at this hearing.

2. All persons having claims against the

deceased, or her estate, are hereby required to file their claims with the Clerk of Courts within sixty (60) days of the first publication of this notice, or the claim will be barred, pursuant to Com.R.Pro. Rule 11.

A copy of your claim should also be sent to Jesus C. Borja at the address below:

> Jesus C. Borja Attorney at Law P.O. Box 505889 Susupe, Saipan, MP 96950-5889

Dated this 5th day of May 2008

Ladera International School of Saipan is seeking for team player and motivated teachers

Position: Classroom Teacher

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/s/ Clerk of Court

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WANTED: 1 Accountant

Qualifications

- Minimum 2 years manufacturing accounting experience
- Familiarity with Peachtree Premium accounting software and Point of Sale system
- Demonstrated understanding of integrated perpetual inventory accounting, invoicing, accounts receivables, and accounts payable
- Extensive knowledge of accounting principles, practices and the analysis and reporting of financial data
- Must be a team player in a fast-paced work environment

Submit cover letter, resume and any related materials in Adobe Acrobat or MS Word format via email to: employment201@gmail.com.

WANTED: 1 Chief Accountant

An 80-employee, multi million dollar wholesale/retail/ manufacturing company in Saipan, CNMI requires a Chief Accountant responsible for the oversight of all accounting functions, including inventory, invoicing and accounts receivable, fixed assets, accounts payable, payroll, and cost of production analysis. The successful applicant will also be responsible for the preparation of accurate monthly and annual financial reports. Position calls for extensive knowledge of computerized accounting software and functions. Ability to work as a team player in a fast paced atmosphere is required

Qualifications

- CPA designation with a minimum of 5 years manufacturing accounting
- Familiarity with Peachtree Premium accounting software
- Demonstrated understanding of cost accounting principles.
 Demonstrated understanding of integrated perpetual inventory accounting concepts.
- Demonstrated understanding of computerized payroll accounting
- Ability to prepare monthly work papers to for the purpose of adjusting general ledger for accurate and timely financial statement preparation Demonstrated understanding of MS Excel integrated modeling concepts
- for the preparation of trend and "what if" analyses.
 - Staff management experience.

Deliverables

- Assume responsibility of accounting staff consisting of accounts receivable accountant, cost accountant, accounts payable, and inventory accountant, to ensure that work is performed in an accurate
- Assume responsibility for the biweekly processing of payroll.
- Maintain and amortize prepaid expenses.

 Supervise monthly physical inventory count and pricing, ensuring a
- proper cutoff Prepare monthly work papers to show the correct month-end balances for assets and liabilities, the appropriate accruals and general journal
- Assemble and organize the work papers for review by the Controller. Prepare monthly financial statements along with graphical representa
- tion of sales and analytical review commentary of significant changes in sales, cost of operations and expenses.

In order to demonstrate an understanding of the job requirements, applicant should submit, along with their resumes and references, a written narrative of their approach to the job and how they would meet the deliverables.

Salary commensurate with experience – applicants should indicate desired salary range. Résumé and related materials should be submitted in Adobe Acrobat or Microsoft Word format via email to: employment201@gmail.com.

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All job vacancy announcements will be published for two issues in each of two successive weeks.

1st position \$13.00 2nd position \$5.00 **Succeeding positions** \$2.00

These rates apply to all job vacancy announcements on Saipan that include corresponding benefits and positions that are all under the same company name and dba.

Newspaper clippings are also available for \$.25 per copy.

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publica-

Job Vacancy Announcements

Monday Through Friday Issues: All ads placed before 12 noon will come out the next publication date.

Saturday And Sunday Issues:

Saipan Tribune: All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on either Sunday or Monday issues.

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

Job Vacancy Announcements

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the Saipan Tribune are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, Saipan *Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.



OPERATOR POSITIONS AVAILABLE

PTI needs full-time operators to help man its 24-hour directory assistance terminals. May eventually assist with routing long distance, international calls and repair service trouble reports using computer-based keyboard, CRT terminal and AS400 computer terminal.

Must have

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- logical thought process;
- friendly personality

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Saipan Tribune



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Office of the Secretary of Public Works 2nd Floor Joeten Commercial Building, Gualo Rai Saipan, MP 96950





REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS DPW08-RFP-021

PREPARATION OF AN ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR THE LAKE SUSUPE BOARDWALK TRAIL PROJECT, SAIPAN

Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lieutenant Governor Timothy P. Villagomez, through the Secretary of the Department of Public Works, Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands (CNMI), are soliciting sealed proposals from individuals and/ or firms for the Preparation of an Environmental Assessment (EA) Report for the Lake Susupe Boardwalk Trail Project, Saipan.

The selected individuals and/ or firms will be retained for the preparation, development, and submittal of a complete Environmental Assessment (EA) Report in accordance with applicable local and federal regulations as well as the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) as it applies to all Office of Insular Affairs, United States Department of the Interior funded projects. This report will be used in the planning and development of an acceptable design for the project. The individuals and/ or firms will be responsible for the planning, coordination, research, preparation, presentations, and other related tasks necessary to complete the EA as directed by the Director of the Technical Services Division, Department of Public Works.

The estimated completion time for this project is (180) calendar days from the issuance of the written Notice to Proceed

The procurement of this RFP is made in accordance with the CNMI Procurement Rules and Regulations dated May 24, 2001. Proposal procedures shall be in full compliance with Section 3-103 of the Regulations. Bidding procedures shall be in compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, however, Article 7, "Local Business Preference", as amended by Public Law 15-118, is not available to local bidders in this procurement because its use is prohibited by the Federal law granting the funding for this project.

The Scope of Work will be available on or after 8:00 a.m., Friday, May 16, 2008 at the Department of Public Works 2nd Floor-Oleai Commercial Building Office, Saipan. A non-refundable payment of Twenty Five Dollars (\$25.00) is required for each set. Payment must be made to the CNMI Treasurer and a receipt of payment must be presented when obtaining the Scope of Work at the Department of Public Works 2nd Floor-Oleai Commercial Building Office. A Pre-Proposal Conference is scheduled for Thursday, June 5, 2008 at 9:00 a.m. at the Technical Services Division 2nd Floor-Oleai Commercial Building Conference Room. Questions regarding this RFP must be submitted in writing to W. Joseph M. Inos Jr., Director of Technical Services Division, DPW, Oleai Office, Saipan, or faxed to (670) 234-3547 no later than 4:30 p.m. Friday, June 20, 2008 at 15 foll guestions and repropose will be provided to each respondent and transmitted via facsimile. 2008. A list of all questions and responses will be provided to each respondent and transmitted via facsimile

Selection of the top three (3) most technically qualified, responsive, and responsible Firm will be made based on the following criterias

Technical Requirements:

1.	Qualifications and resumes of the individual(s) and/or firm(s) to be assigned to the project and associated responsibilities	40%
2.	Past Experience of the individual(s) and/or firm(s) on similar projects of size and scope	30%
3.	Proposed Approach and Methodology of the individual(s) and/or firm(s) to complete the work, including timetables of deliverables	20%
4.	Current workload and ability to complete the scope of work within the time frame	10%

Award shall be based on the provisions set forth in Section 3-103-(8), award shall be made to the responsible offeror whose proposal is determined in writing to be most advantageous to the government taking into consideration price and the evaluation factors set forth in the request for proposal. No other factors or criteria shall be used in the evaluation and the contract file shall contain the basis on which the award is made. Within three working days after the date of contract award, the P&S Director shall provide written notification to each unsuccessful offerc

Proposals must be sealed and marked "DPW08-RFP-021". For proposers within the CNML one (1) original and five (5) copies of scaled Proposals must be sealed and marked of proposals must be sealed and marked proposals must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan no later than 10:00 a.m. local time, June 25, 2008. Proposers located outside the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their proposal by submitting a Notice of Intent to Propose. Notices of Intent to Propose must be received by the Director of Procurement & Supply no later than 10:00 a.m. local time, June 25, 2008, and may be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com com For proposers located outside the CNMI, one original and five (5) copies of sealed proposals must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than June 25, 2008-AND must be received no later than July 2, 2008. Note that failure to submit the required number of Copies may be equaled for proposals. number of Copies may be cause for rejection of a proposal.

This procurement is funded through the U.S. Department of the Interior, Office of Insular Affairs (DOI/OIA). Contract award is contingent upon

All responses to this PFP shall take into account all taxes that will be charged to the proposer awarded a contract for this project including excise tax.

The Government reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to waive any imperfections in any proposal if, in its opinion to do so, would be in the best interest of the Government. All proposals shall become the property of the CNMI Government.

Governor, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

/s/ DIEGO B. SONGSONG Acting Secretary, of Public Works

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN Director, Procurement & Supply



Boston takes 3-2 lead in Eastern Conference finals



(AP)—Ray Allen found his shooting touch just in time to put the Boston Celtics within

one win of the NBA finals for the first time since the original Big Three.

Allen scored 29, hitting a long 2-pointer after Detroit came within one point with a minute left. then he and Kevin Garnett each made a pair of free throws down the stretch as the Celtics beat the Detroit Pistons 106-102 on Wednesday night to take a 3-2 lead in the Eastern Conference finals.

"We knew the significance of this game," said Garnett, whose 33 points were his most in the playoffs this year. "You don't win this game, you put basically yourself in a corner.

... They're experienced, and they've been in a lot of pressure situations. Now it's up to us to go up there and try to get one."

Game 6 is Friday in Detroit, and with a victory there or on Sunday back in Boston, the Celtics would advance to the NBA finals for the first time since Larry Bird, Kevin McHale and Robert Parish took them there in 1987.

Kendrick Perkins had 18 points and 16 rebounds, and Rajon Rondo added seven points, 13 assists, six rebounds and four steals for Boston. The 29 points was also a playoff-high for Allen, the usually reliable scorer who had been cold for most of the playoffs.

"My feeling right now is no different than if I scored 10 points and we won the game. It's a great feeling," Allen said. "Just winning gives me the greatest joy, regardless of what I've done."

Chauncey Billups scored 26



Boston Celtics' Ray Allen gestures to the crowd in front of Detroit Pistons' Lindsey Hunter, left, late in the fourth quarter of Game 5 of the NBA Eastern Conference basketball finals, Wednesday, May 28, 2008, in Boston.

and Richard Hamilton had 25 points for Detroit, which has reached the conference finals six consecutive years but played for the championship just twice and won once in that span.

But Boston dominated the rebounding, grabbing 45 to De-

troit's 25. In fact, Perkins outrebounded the Pistons by himself in the first half, 13-11.

"Perkins is eating us up," Pistons coach Flip Saunders said. "Tonight was a game where Perkins played well, Rondo did a great job assist wise, Allen had his 3-pointer at the buzzer.

best game and Garnett was great tonight. So they had four guys that played at a high level."

Billups twice drove to the basket in the final 10 seconds, hoping for a foul that wasn't there. He also missed an inconsequential as 17 in the third quarter, but Hamilton scored 13 points during a 21-8 Detroit run that made it 92-88 with 4:46 left.

Boston led 100-96 before Rodney Stuckey hit a 3-pointer with 1:22 left. But, after a timeout with 6 seconds left on the shot clock, Allen took the inbounds pass and put up a jumper to give Boston a 3-point lead.

Billups tried an off-balance layup that missed, but in the fight for the rebound the Celtics tipped it out of bounds. Billups drove again, putting it harmlessly off the front of the rim.

The Celtics ran down the 24-second clock before Garnett was forced to take an off-balance jumper. Rondo fouled Stuckey, and he hit both free throws to make it 102-101 with 8.2 seconds left.

Allen matched them, then Rondo again wrapped up Stuckey. But this time the rookie missed the first. giving the Boston Garden crowd a reason to erupt.

Garnett hit a pair of free throws to clinch it.

The Celtics earned home-court advantage with an NBA-best 66-16 record in the regular season, but the Pistons took it away with a victory in Boston in Game 2. The Celtics swiped it back with a split in Detroit, and now have two chances to clinch—including a potential seventh game at home.

Detroit trailed 23-20 in the final minute of the first quarter before scoring 13 of the next 15 points. The

Pistons still led 42-36 with five minutes left in the second when Boston scored 11 in a row, getting back-to-back 3 pointers from Paul Pierce and Allen to take the lead for good.

Garnett added a fallaway

have been called at end of Game 4

NBA: Foul should

3-point bank shot at the 24-sec-

ond clock buzzer-just his sec-

ond 3 pointer of the season—to

give Boston a 50-43 lead with

1:23 left in the half. Perkins had

two of the first three baskets in

the second half to extend the

3-pointers midway through the

third to turn an eight-point game

Allen added consecutive

lead to 11 points.

to a 14-point lead.

NBA BRIEFS

NEW YORK (AP)—The NBA acknowledged Wednesday that a foul should have been called on the final possession of Game 4 in the Western Conference finals, which would have given the San Antonio Spurs a chance to even the series. Trailing 93-91 on Tuesday night, the Spurs inbounded the ball with 2.1 seconds left to Brent Barry, who was bumped by Los Angeles Lakers guard Derek Fisher on the floor. No foul was called, and Barry missed badly on a 3-pointer before time expired. Spurs players and coach Gregg Popovich said a foul should not have been called, but the NBA disagreed with them after reviewing the play. "With the benefit of instant replay, it appears a foul should have been called," NBA spokesman Tim Frank said. Had that happened, Barry would have gone to the line for two free throws and a chance to tie the game. Instead, the defending champion Spurs trail the series 3-1 and face elimination Thursday in Los Angeles.

Bulls' Joakim Noah gets probation, fine GAINESVILLE, Fla.

(AP)—Chicago Bulls forward

Joakim Noah accepted a deferred prosecution agreement Wednesday in his marijuana possession case, resulting in six months' probation and a \$200 fine. The former Florida star was charged with possession of less than 20 grams of marijuana and for having an open container of alcohol early Sunday in downtown Gainesville. As a first-time offender, he was eligible for the deferred prosecution agreement, the State Attorney's Office said. The charges will be dropped in six months if Noah meets the terms of his probation. Noah also must pay \$206 in traffic fines for two citations he received Sunday on the University of Florida campus. Noah was ticketed for driving with a suspended license without knowledge and not wearing a seat belt. Noah led the Gators to consecutive national championships before being selected ninth overall in last June's draft by the Bulls. He averaged 6.6 points and 5.6 rebounds in 74 games as a rookie.

Byron Scott agrees to extension with Hornets

NEW ORLEANS (AP)—NBA coach of the year Byron Scott and the New Orleans Hornets agreed in principle to a two-year contract extension on Wednesday.

"I am very happy to sign an extension to stay here in New Orleans with the Hornets," Scott said in a statement released by the team. "We, as a team, are a piece of the community of New Orleans. We are really growing into something special and there is no other place I would rather be."

Citing team policies, the Hornets did not release the terms of the new contract.

Two people familiar with the contract confirmed the length of the deal on condition of anonymity and also told The Associated Press that it pays Scott a base of a little more than \$5 million per year with incentives

that could push it higher than \$6 million per year. The people did not want to be identified because the Hornets had not released the contract terms.

Scott said shortly after the Hornets were eliminated by San Antonio in the second round of the NBA playoffs that he believed the Hornets, led by point guard Chris Paul, were a team on the rise and that he did not expect to go elsewhere as long as he received a fair offer. The coach also accompanied Hornets general manager Jeff Bower to Orlando this week to watch prospects participate in predraft workouts.

"We are all very happy that we were able to sign Byron to an extension. It was a fair deal on all sides," Bower said. "Byron has done an excellent job as coach growing our players and we feel that we have the best coach for our players and team."

Scott said he hoped to get a raise from his current \$3.5 milcloser to what the "top five or six" coaches in the league earn.

The highest-paid coach in the NBA is the Los Angeles Lakers' Phil Jackson, who's paid \$10.3 million per year. Golden State's Don Nelson and the Knicks' Mike D'Antoni, who each are paid about \$6 million per year, also are among the highest-paid coaches in the league.

After this season ended, Scott had the option of either staying with the Hornets at his current salary or buying out of his contract for a little more than \$2 million.

"Byron's happy. He wanted to stay with a group of guys he

lion annual salary to a figure next year. ... San Antonio's getting older. The Hornets can only get older in a good way. It's difficult to abandon a group of guys he cares about for more money somewhere else."

When Scott took over as coach following the 2003-04 season, he was the Hornets' third coach in three seasons.

In his first season, he oversaw the dismantling of an aging roster, which resulted in an 18-64 record. The Hornets drafted Paul the following summer and improved their win total by 20 the following season, despite being displaced to Oklahoma City by Hurricane Katrina.

Still playing in Oklahoma

considers family," said his agent, City in 2006-07, the Hornets Brian McInerney. "He thinks narrowly missed the playoffs this team is going to be the best before returning to New Orteam in the Western Conference leans full-time for this season and winning the rugged Southwest Division with a franchiserecord 56 victories.

The Hornets beat Dallas in the opening round of the playoffs before losing to San Antonio in seven games in the Western Conference semifinals.

"We are a very fortunate organization to have coach Scott leading our team," Hornets majority owner George Shinn said. 'Obviously, I wanted to get this contract done as soon as we could and we were able to accomplish that. I told coach Scott when he became our head coach four years ago that I want him to retire as a Hornet and this is another step in that direction."

Utley hits league best 17th homer in Phillies win over Rockies



PHIA (AP)—

Chase Utley hit his major leagueleading 17th homer to help Adam Eaton earn his first win, and the Philadelphia Phillies beat the Colorado Rockies 6-1 Wednesday to complete a three-game sweep.

Eaton (1-3) allowed one run over six innings. Geoff Jenkins hit a two-run shot and the Phillies (31-24) moved a seasonbest seven games above .500 with their first sweep of the season. Philadelphia outscored Colorado 33-10 in the series.

The reeling Rockies are a season-worst 13 games under .500. The defending NL champions, who swept Philadelphia in the NLDS last October, have been decimated by injuries this season.

Eaton needed 11 starts to get his first win. He gave up four hits and struck out four in his best outing so far, lowering his ERA to 4.99.

Reds 9, Pirates 1

At Cincinnati, David Ross hit his first homer of the season to put the finishing touch on a six-run first inning off Tom Gorzelanny, and Cincinnati extended its home winning streak to nine games.

Ross drove in four runs overall, and rookie Jay Bruce had a double and a pair of walks as the Reds extended their best home winning streak since 1980.

Gorzelanny (4-5) retired only two of the eight batters he faced during the shortest of his 54 starts in the majors. He gave up four hits and two walks, and threw a wild pitch that set up a run.

Giants 11, **Diamondbacks 3**

At Phoenix, Ray Durham drove in four runs with a solo homer and a three-run single and San Francisco spoiled Doug Davis' Arizona homecoming.

Davis (2-2) was making his second start, first at home, since returning from surgery to remove his cancerous thyroid gland. He allowed six runs on nine hits in five innings, striking out five and walking three, one intentionally.

Jonathan Sanchez blanked Arizona for five innings before

giving up two in the sixth as the Diamondbacks lost a series to an NL West opponent for the first time this season.

Nationals 6, Padres 4

At San Diego, Jesus Flores hit a grand slam off Shawn Estes (1-1) and Washington kept San Diego from assembling their first threegame winning streak this season.

Odalis Perez (2-4) was lifted after he allowed consecutive one-out doubles to Luke Carlin and pinch-hitter Tony Clark in the seventh that cut the Nationals' lead to 6-2. Scott Hairston greeted reliever Brian Sanches runner in scoring position. After pinch-hitter Joe Dillon struck out, Weeks hit his second triple of the season down the left-field line.

Cardinals 6, Astros 1

At St. Louis, Adam Wainwright shackled Houston for eight innings and Yadier Molina had two hits and two RBIs to help spoil Wandy Rodriguez's first start in more than a month.

Cesar Izturis added a two-run triple for the Cardinals, who are 7-3 in their last 10 games against the Astros.

Wainwright (5-2) matched his career high with eight strikeouts, bottom of the 12th as New York edged Florida.

The Mets made it 5-all in the ninth when Endy Chavez connected for the first pinch-hit home run of his career.

After Alfredo Amezaga homered with two outs in the 12th off reliever Duaner Sanchez (1-0), the Mets rallied. Tatis' one-out hit came against Justin Miller (1-2).

The NL East-leading Marlins lost despite hitting four home runs, including two by Cody Ross. Mike Rabelo also homered.

Jose Reyes and Luis Castillo also homered for the Mets as left. Bob Howry (1-2) pitched **Tigers 6, Angels 2** the top of the inning.

Yankees 4, Orioles 2

At Baltimore, Jason Giambi homered and drove in two runs to back an effective pitching performance by Andy Pettitte, and the New York Yankees beat the Baltimore Orioles to avert a three-game sweep.

Pettitte (5-5) gave up two runs and eight hits in 62-3 innings to improve to 24-6 lifetime against the Orioles, including 15-4 in Baltimore. He has more wins at Camden Yards than any visiting pitcher.

Joba Chamberlain struck out three and allowed one hit in 1 1-3 innings before Mariano Rivera got three outs for his 13th save in 13 tries.

Mariners 1, Red Sox 0

At Seattle, Erik Bedard finally looked like an ace for Seattle, allowing just two hits in seven innings and getting help from Yuniesky Betancourt's home run in a victory over Boston.

J.J. Putz walked Manny Ramirez and Sean Casey to put the tying run at second with two outs in the ninth, but he got Coco Crisp to ground out for his sixth save in nine chances, completing the first shutout of the season for Seattle. The Mariners had lost seven straight and 20 of 25 games before taking the last two of the three-game series against Boston.

Blue Jays 2, Athletics 1

At Oakland, California, Alex Rios hit a tiebreaking RBI double in the ninth that helped secure the win for Roy Halladay, and Toronto beat Oakland for the first time in five tries.

Halladay (6-5) outshined Rich Harden in an impressive pitcher's duel between two of the American League's top right-handers, winning his third straight decision.

Rios lined a one-out single down the left-field line off loser Keith Foulke (0-1) and the A's had their season-high tying fivegame winning streak snapped. Foulke's last loss came April 21, 2006, at Toronto.

At Anaheim, California, Arman-

do Galarraga came within two outs of his first complete game and shutout in the majors and Marcus Thames hit two homers as Detroit downed the Angels

Galarraga (4-2) struck out three and walked three while improving his road record to 4-1 in five starts. The right-hander did not allow a runner past first base until the ninth, when he walked Reggie Willits with one out and Maicer Izturis followed with a home run on the righthander's 104th and final pitch. Todd Jones finished up.

Rays 5, Rangers 3

At St. Petersburg, Florida, Matt Garza pitched a career-high eight innings, leading first-place Tampa Bay over Texas.

Despite being off to the best start in franchise history and beginning the day tied with the Chicago Cubs for the best record in major leagues, Tampa Bay drew an announced crowd of 10,927.

Garza (4-1) allowed two runs and four hits for the American League East leaders, who won two of three from the Rangers to hand Texas its first series loss in over a month. The Rays have won nine of their last 11 series, including six straight at home.

B.J. Upton and Akinori Iwamura delivered RBI singles off Kason Gabbard (1-2), Evan Longoria had a sacrifice fly and Carlos Pena and pinch-hitter Cliff Floyd drew walks with the bases loaded for Tampa Bay, which has won 15 of 20 games.

White Sox 6, Indians 5

At Cleveland, Carlos Quentin drove in three runs, including a go-ahead, two-run double in a three-run seventh inning that led Chicago to its 1,000th win over Cleveland.

Gavin Floyd (5-3) allowed two runs in the first, then retired 15 of 17 hitters before the Indians scored three times to take a 5-3 lead in the sixth. Floyd gave up five runs—four earned—and eight hits in six innings with seven strikeouts.

The AL Central-leading White Sox have won five of six against Cleveland.

Twins 9, Royals 8

At Kansas City, Missouri, Justin Morneau hit a leadoff homer in the 10th inning after Minnesota rallied with five runs in the ninth to hand Kansas City its 10th straight loss.

Joel Peralta (0-2) gave up the tying three-run homer to pinch hitter Craig Monroe with two out in the ninth, then watched Morneau hit his first pitch of the 10th over the fence in right.

Jesse Crain (3-2) got the final out in the ninth for the win. Joe Nathan worked the 10th for his 14th save in a wild game that had the sparse crowd cheering for most of the night as the Royals rapped out 16 hits and seemed almost sure to snap their demoralizing streak.



Philadelphia Phillies' Chase Utley is congratulated by Shane Victorino after hitting a three-run homer that brought in Victorino and Jimmy Rollins in the fifth inning of a baseball game with the Colorado Rockies, Wednesday, May 28, 2008 in Philadelphia.

with a two-run home run.

Jon Rauch pitched the ninth for his 11th save in 13 chances.

Brewers 1, Braves 0

At Milwaukee, Rickie Weeks delivered a run-scoring triple in the eighth inning to make a winner of Milwaukee's Jeff Suppan, who baffled Atlanta over eight innings.

Braves starter Jo-Jo Reyes (2-3) had given up just two hits and retired 14 batters in a row before walking J.J. Hardy on four pitches leading off the eighth.

Blaine Boyer replaced Reyes, and Jason Kendall's sacrifice

allowed three hits and issued his only walk to Michael Bourn with two outs in the eighth.

Ty Wigginton homered into the third deck in left in the third for the Astros.

Rodriguez (1-1) made his first start since going on the 15-day disabled list on April 20 with a strained left groin and labored over 4 2-3 innings, allowing six runs, three earned, and six hits and walked four.

Mets 7, Marlins 6, 12 innings

At New York, Fernando Tatis bunt gave the Brewers their first delivered a two-run double in the

Cubs 2, Dodgers 1, 10 innings

straight night.

they beat Florida for the second

At Chicago, Alfonso Soriano

singled in the winning run in the bottom of the 10th and Chicago completed a three-game sweep.

Trailing 1-0 in the bottom of the ninth, the Cubs tied it against Dodgers' closer Takashi Saito on Geovany Soto's basesloaded sacrifice fly.

In the 10th, pinch-hitter Mike Fontenot doubled with one out off Park Chan-ho (1-1) and scored on Soriano's single to

Ex-NFL players' suit to move ahead despite suicide



(AP)—A former hedge fund manager's suicide has no effect on a lawsuit

filed by six former NFL players against the league and its players union over \$20 million they say they lost in an investment scheme, an attorney for the plaintiffs said Monday.

The lawsuit claims the union endorsed Kirk Wright's services even though he had liens against him.

Wright hanged himself in a suburban Atlanta jail on Saturday, three days after he was convicted of leading an investment scheme that caused cliNFL players to his mother, to lose millions of dollars while he spent the money on jewelry, real estate and a \$500,000 wedding.

Wright, 37, faced up to what would have amounted to a life sentence. He hanged himself with bedsheets, said John Mansch, chief of the Union City jail. He did not leave a note and officials had "no indication whatsoever he intended to do any harm to himself," Mansch said.

An attorney for the former players said they weren't planning on using Wright as a witness in the case.

"The point of the lawsuit is to make sure what happened does Marlon Kimpson said.

Attorneys for the NFL and its players union, the NFLPA, did not immediately respond to e-mails Monday, a national holiday. However, the union has countersued the ex-players, arguing it does not endorse any of its registered financial advisers and is not responsible for what happened. The union also claims the players breached union rules by not exhausting internal remedies before filing the lawsuit.

The former NFL players are Steve Atwater, Ray Crockett, Al Smith, Blaine Bishop, Carlos Emmons and Clyde Sim-

ATLANTA ents, ranging from the former not happen again," attorney mons. No trial date has been an alias. Authorities have said set for the lawsuit.

The criminal charges against Wright were related to the 2006 collapse of his Atlanta-based hedge fund company, International Management Associates.

According to authorities, Wright and his company collected more than \$150 million from thousands of client accounts since 1997 and used false statements and documents to mislead some of them to believe the value of those investments was increasing. Much of that money is missing.

Wright was arrested in May 2006 at a hotel in Miami Beach, Fla., where he was staying under

nearly \$30,000 in cash, several fake ID's and seven prepaid cell phones were found in Wright's hotel room.

As part of Wright's criminal sentence, he also faced a fine of up to \$16 million and could have been ordered to pay restitution to his victims. A spokesman for the U.S. attorney's office in Atlanta declined to comment Monday on what affect Wright's death will have on the payment of any restitution.

Wright already had been hit with a \$20 million judgment as part of a civil suit filed by the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Sharapova barely wins in Paris; Nadal advances



PARIS (AP)— Start with this statistic on a busy, blustery day at Roland Garros:

Maria Sharapova hit 17 double-faults. It bears repeating: 17.

She hammered hard serves, and they sailed long. She tapped soft serves, and they landed in the bottom of the net. And she played poorly enough overall to come within two points of becoming the only No. 1-seeded woman in French Open history to lose in the first round.

Sharapova did regroup in time to barely piece together a 6-1, 3-6, 8-6 victory over Evgeniya Rodina, a Russian teen making her Grand Slam debut Wednesday.

"I don't think I'd be able to get away with not playing and not serving that well with maybe a different opponent and somebody that has more experience, a top player," said Sharapova, who placed part of the blame for her woes on swirling wind that kicked up clouds of dust on court. "But I'll work on it, and it will be better."

The awful serving and generally sub-par showing by someone who's supposed to be the best in the world at what she does shared top billing with the dry weather as Wednesday's most noteworthy developments. After three days of

rain—Sharapova originally was to be on court Tuesday—not a drop fell, permitting match after match after match at the claycourt major.

That meant there were other numbers of note, if not much in the way of stunning results:

- Serena Williams made it to the third round for the 33rd time in 34 career Grand Slam tournaments.
- Rafael Nadal improved to 22-0 at the French Open.
- A year after U.S. men went 0-9 in Paris, five reached the second round, and one, Wayne Odesnik, already moved into the third.

Williams found herself trailing 5-3 in the second set against Mathilde Johansson, a French wild-card entry who began this tournament with a 2-5 career Grand Slam record. But Williams took the next four games to end it 6-2, 7-5.

"I haven't played my best tennis, so hopefully the next round, I'll play better," said Williams, who won the French Open in 2002 and is the only past champion in the women's field.

Nadal began his bid to match Bjorn Borg's four consecutive titles from 1978-81 by beating qualifier Thomaz Bellucci. A rain shower forced them to pack up and head home Tuesday tied at 1-1, and Nadal stumbled at the start Wednesday, getting



Russia's Maria Sharapova returns the ball to Russia's Evgeniya Rodina during their first round match at the French Open tennis tournament in Paris on Wednesday May 28, 2008.

broken to fall behind 2-1, then again when serving for the first set at 5-3. But he recovered nicely, winning 7-5, 6-3, 6-1.

"It was tough, no? The conditions are very, very bad," Nadal said. "The winds are terrible."

Like Nadal, Bellucci entered the day never having been forced to experience the bitter taste of defeat at Roland Garros. That, of course, is because he never had played a main-draw match in the French Open—or any other Grand Slam tournament, for that matter.

"These were two difficult days, because as time goes by, you get more nervous and you can't practice, so I probably lost the rhythm I had acquired before this tournament," Nadal

said. "But I hope this won't be a problem for the rest of the tournament."

Nadal, Sharapova and other players around the grounds complained about the way loose particles got in their faces and left courts barer than usual.

"Apart from eating and breathing the sand, it was great," Sharapova said. "It's dry and you've got sand blowing in your face. So you think it's a hard court, but then you feel like you're in a desert."

Maybe the surfaces really did play like hard courts, for what else could explain the success of the men from the United States? They went 5-5 in the first round this time, capped by victories Wednesday by Mardy Fish, Bobby Reynolds and Robby Ginepri.

Fish beat Agustin Calleri of Argentina 6-7 (6), 6-4, 6-2, 6-4, and Reynolds defeated Thierry Ascione of France 7-6 (2), 4-6, 6-3, 6-2. Ginepri's match against Donald Young had to produce a U.S. winner, and it was Ginepri, by a score of 6-2, 3-6, 7-6 (4), 6-2.

"When we come over here, we're already, I think, one step slower than the other Europeans and other guys," said Ginepri, who shares coach Jose Higueras with top-ranked Roger Federer. "But to be honest, I'm enjoying the clay, and I'm actually a little sad that this is the last clay tournament of the year."

Odesnik, who is ranked 106th, followed up his upset of No. 29 Guillermo Canas by beating Lee Hyung-taik 6-2, 4-6, 6-3, 6-2 and now will take on No. 3 Novak Djokovic, who dropped only five games in his second-round win.

"It's always good to have easy matches," said Djokovic, the Australian Open champion.

Sharapova, who also won in Melbourne in January, made more than twice as many unforced errors as Rodina, 51-23.

"I had problems in every department," Sharapova said. "Realistically, I don't know if there's any way down from here." She could, at least, take solace in not having joined No. 9 Marion Bartoli on the way out after one match. Bartoli, a Frenchwoman who was a Wimbledon finalist last year but is struggling with a wrist injury and an 8-12 record at the moment, lost to Casey Dellacqua of Australia 6-7 (4), 6-3, 6-2.

Sharapova twice served three double-faults in a single game, making recreational players everywhere feel better about their own foibles. On occasion, she resorted to first serves barely above 80 mph, which might not sound too shabby but certainly is on the slow side for a three-time major champion.

Trailing 4-3 in the final set, Sharapova faced three break points and saved them, remarkably, with three fantastic first serves. Then, down 5-4, a - wait for it - double-fault made the score 30-all, putting Rodina two points from about as big a stunner as tennis has seen. Somehow, Sharapova mustered two service winners, at 101 mph and 102 mph.

Three games later, Sharapova finally seized control, breaking serve to go ahead 7-6 with a big forehand return that caught Rodina flat-footed.

Sharapova still had to hold serve one more time, and she did, although not before one last double-fault, No. 17.



MASC thanks sponsors of spearfishing tourney

mark_rabago@saipantribune.com ASSISTANT EDITOR

Marianas Apnea Spearfishing Club president Morito Asai the other day gave his heartfelt thanks to sponsors who made the 2nd Annual Spearfishing Tournament a success.

Asai, who visited the Saipan Tribune office Wednesday, said he would like to extend his gratitude to the event's many sponsors, including MARPAC, Sen. Luis Crisostomo, Sen. Maria T. Pangelinan, Marianas Visitors Authority, Saipan Fishermen's Association, Pacifica Insurance, Hyatt Regency Saipan, Aquarius Beach Tower, Fishing Tackle Saipan, Rep. Joseph Deleon Guerrero, Rep. Ralph Torres, Rep. Diego T. Benavente, Ren's Restaurant, Moomin Mura Restaurant, Asin's Fish Mart and its fishermen, Johnny's Bar & Grill, Bruce Bateman, Aimrite, Cressi-Sub, Omer, and Hawaii Skin Diver.

The MASC official also gave

Scott Russel, left, and Peter Houk pose for photographers after winning the team competition with a total weight of 72.92 lbs.



TINIAN

From Page 44

First Game

DCCA 92 – Van Buren 37, Rangamar 17, A. Camacho 16, P. Camacho 8, Fernando 8, Iginoef 6. Bank of Guam 87 - Villacrusis 17, Lee 15, Peters 14, G. Palacios 11, Taisacan 10, D. Palacios 8, Imperial 6, Pelisamen 6.

37-41, 44-58, 92-87.

Second Game Tinian Bombers 113 – Borja

Scoring by quarters: 19-25,

25, Santos 22, Reyes 18, Manglona 17, Stole 10, Aquiningoc 10, Cabrera 6.

DPW/P&S 71 – Tudela 20, Masga 20, Guerrero 13, Tomokane 9, Iglecias 6, Norita 3.

Friday Game

Bank of Guam 85 – Taisacan

19, Peters 16, Palacios 16, Villacrusis 13, Pelisamen 10, Lee 4, Philip 4.

Legislature 54 – Duenas 30, Diaz 10, Apatang 5, Cabrera 5, R. Duenas 4.

Scoring by quarters: 25-11, 46-30, 63-42, 85-54

TAISACAN

From Page 44

triples that essentially handed the game to the Joeten Motors-sponsored team.

After a 1-1 first inning, Rangers moved ahead when Clifton Silil's triple brought home Sakisat to give their team a 2-1 lead.

D-9ers, however, answered with three runs in the third, as Chris Camacho made it 2-2 on a single by Ton Camacho. John Acosta then drove in Camacho on an error and Acosta himself crossed the plate on a single by Pat Alepeyu to make the score 4-2 in favor of the team from San Roque.

Rangers would quickly counter though in the next inning, as Taisacan victimized starting pitcher Lee Roy Dela Cruz with a triple that scored Robert Bansil and Flores Franco.

After Ton Camacho drove in another run in the top of the fourth to make it 5-4 for the D9ers, Taisacan was again back to do damage from the plate.

This time, however, he was not alone, as Pete Tomokane and Flores drove in two runs for the Rangers to give them back the lead, 6-5.

Taisacan then made sure that the Rangers stayed in the driver's seat, as the hard-hitting

is legendary as it combines a

1.5-kilometer swim in the wa-

ter of the Pacific Ocean, 30-km

of mountain biking with more

than 3,000 feet of climbing up

first baseman befuddled relief pitcher Derik Babauta with yet another triple that allowed Bansil and Flores to return home, giving them an 8-5 spread.

While the Rangers would score six more runs in the next three innings as against one by the D-9ers, the game was essentially won in the fourth when the latter seized momentum.

Taisacan went on to finish 2-of-4 from the plate with four RBIs. Franco and Silil were also brilliant in support as the duo combined for 5-of-11 from the batter's box with four RBIs. Ton Camacho shone in the loss for D-9ers, going 2-for-4 with three RBIs.

The win allowed Rangers to move up to solo second behind spotless Rock Steady (9-0) with a 6-3 mark. The loss, meanwhile, dropped D-9ers to a tie with Korean Dreams in fourth to fifth places with a 5-4 record.

On Tuesday, Komoro defeated Kabur, 8-5. The match saw the season's first over-the-fence homerun as Jang Jun Hyuk let it fly out to the direction of Marianas High School for Komoro.

Last May 23, Koran Dreams defanged the Tigers, 8-5. Rock Steady, meanwhile, notched its ninth win as against no loss after dismantling Kabur, 10-4, in their May 21 game.

The Maui triathlon course the slopes of Maui's Haleakala Business Systems and Supplies, Volcano, and an 11-km trail run covering a dozen different surfaces from sand to lava rock.

Sitchon, who works as a service support supervisor at Island qualified for the XTERRA World Championships after winning the 50-54 division in the 7th XTERRA Saipan Championship last March 8.

80-100

MANNY

From Page 44

From Page 44

committed to hole sponsorships and raffle prizes. I hope you will encourage employees and friends to sign up."

pionship, considered the jewel of

the XTERRA global tour.

The sponsorships Arenovski was referring to are hole-in-one sponsorships, which the Inaugural Saipan Chamber of Commerce Golf Tournament has

four of—\$25,000 from Bank of Hawaii, \$15,000 from Takagi & Associates, \$5,000 from Century Insurance Company, Ltd., and a Yamaha R-6 Sports Bike from Joeten Motors.

Aside from Top 3 in the Low Gross and Low and the hole-inone challenge, organizers also are dangling additional prizes for the straightest drive, longest drive, and closest to the pin.

In addition, Arenovski said an

accurate drive hole sponsored by SaipanCell Communications will win the lucky participant a spunking new Blackberry.

"We also have great raffle prizes like trips to Hawaii, Korea, and other destinations in Asia from Northwest Airlines and Asiana Airlines. Room stays from Hyatt Regency Saipan and Pacific Islands Club, many waterpark passes, meals, and much more!" he added.

Registration fee is \$110 per player after the \$99 early bird special price expired yesterday. The cost is inclusive of green fee, prizes, and the awards banquet. Banquet guests will be charged \$20 per person.

Those interested in joining the competition should make checks payable to the Saipan Chamber of Commerce. For more information, call 233-7150 or email coordinator@saipanchamber.com.

kudos to boat volunteers and the organizing committee for making sure the tournament was held without a hitch. Asai also thanked DPS Boating Safety, Division of Fish and Wildlife, Smiling Cove Marina, American Memorial Park, Scott Leon Guerrero, and Saipan Ice and Water Company.

Mike Geand tandem

of Scott Russel and Peter Houk topped the individual and team categories respectively of the 2nd Annual Spearfishing Tournament, which was held last May 17 in the waters around Saipan.

Genereux earned the top spearfishermen award after catching 47.4 lbs. of fish, followed by Jess Hapdei (47 lbs.), and Russel (45.22 lbs.).

Russel and Houk, meanwhile, dominated the team competition after hauling 72.92 lbs. of fish back to shore. Genereux and Myles Driscoll came in a far second (62.7 lbs). while James and Ken Borja finished third (45.22 lbs.)

In other prizes, Brian Fitzgerald

won the parrotfish category (4.66

lbs), Mike Lizama the trivally (4.66 lbs.), Cliff Sabo the rudderfish (3.14 lbs.), Felix T. Sasamoto the black snapper (1.5 lbs.), Anthony Roberts the sweetlips (4.44 lbs.), Nick Gross the unicorn fish (5.14 lbs.), Dan Repeki the grouper (2.64 lbs.), Frank Pangelinan the emperor (3.26 lbs.), and Roberts again in the goatfish category (1.08 lbs.).

SGA June Ace this Sunday



Association will hold its June Ace of the Month Tournament this

Sunday, June 1, at the Laolao Bay Golf Resort east course.

Check-in time for the club's sixth monthly competition of the year is 8:30am with tee time

set an hour later at 9:30am. Veteran golfers Mariano Fajardo and Joe Sablan, homerun menace Ned Norita, last year's annual champion Larry Deleon Guerrero, and Carl Hocog have bragging rights for the first five

The Saipan Golf months of SGA's season as they secured the January, February, March, April, and May Ace titles, respectively.

Slots are available for 24 players and SGA said first players to show up early, will definitely be the first to roll the grounds.

For more information about SGA's June Ace of the Month Tournament, call SGA president Martin Sablan at 483-6278, vice president John Takai at 484-3045, secretary Larry Guerrero at 287-1052, or tournament coordinator Mariano Fajardo at 483-2549. (Mark Rabago)

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE **East Division**

	V V		1 61	uр
Tampa Bay	32	21	.604	_
Boston	32	24	.571	1 1/2
Toronto	29	26	.527	4
Baltimore	26	26	.500	5 1/2
New York	26	27	.491	6
Central	Divi	sion		
Chicago	29	23	.558	_
Minnesota	27	25	.519	2
Cleveland	24	29	.453	5 1/2

32

.396

1/2

1/2

1/2

1/2

2 1/2

6

7 1/2

DOC

West Division

Philadelphia 31

21

Kansas City

Los Angeles	32	23	.582	_
Oakland	29	24	.547	2
Texas	27	28	.491	5
Seattle	20	34	.370	11.1

NATIONAL LEAGUE East Division 30 22

Atlanta	28	25	.528	2
New York	25	26	.490	4
Washington	23	31	.426	
-				
Central	Divi	sion		
Central Chicago	Divi:	sion 21	.604	

30 24

25

24 28

27

28

Cincinnati

Pittsburgh

					CHC
West Div	isic	n			BoG
Arizona	30	23	.566	_	DCCA
Los Angeles	26	26	.500	3 1/2	Legislature
San Francisco	22	31	.415	8	DPS
Colorado	20	33	.377	10	DPW/P&S

.556

.491

.472

.462

20 34 .370 10 1/2 San Diego

Yesterday's Games Philadelphia 6, Colorado 1

N.Y. Mets 7, Florida 6, 12 innings Cincinnati 9, Pittsburgh 1 Milwaukee 1. Atlanta 0 Chicago Cubs 2, L.A. Dodgers 1, 10 innings St. Louis 6. Houston 1

San Francisco 11. Arizona 3 Washington 6, San Diego 4 Chicago White Sox 6. Cleveland 5 Tampa Bay 5, Texas 3

N.Y. Yankees 4, Baltimore 2 Minnesota 9. Kansas City 8, 10 innings Toronto 2. Oakland 1

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOCAL SCORES

BSML STANDINGS

Seattle 1. Boston 0

Rock Steady	9	0
Ford Rangers	6	3
Tanapag Falcons	5	3
San Roque D9ers	5	4
Koreans Dreams	5	4
Team Kabur	2	8
O'Conner Tigers	1	8

Govt Basketball Standings

0

NIVIC	ı	U
Aguaguat	1	0
PTI	0	0
Mayor's Office	0	0
ARFF	0	0
CHC	0	0
BoG	1	1
DCCA	1	1
Legislature	0	1
DPS	0	1

SAIPAN TRIBUNE FRIDAY, MAY 30, 2008 43

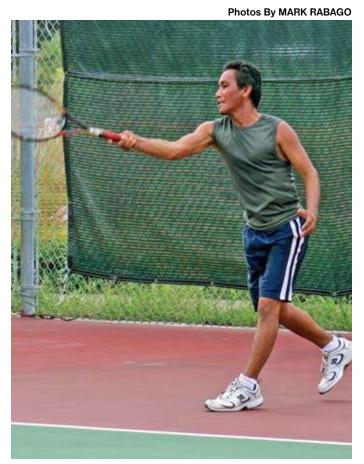
27th DFS Micronesian Tennis Championships



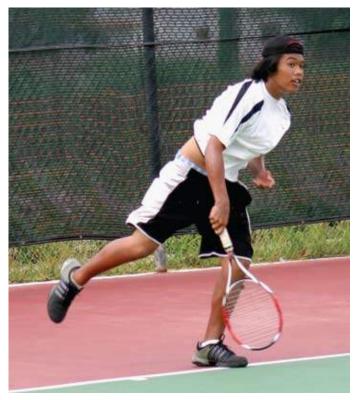
Mayuko Arriola goes through her serving motion in Day 1 of her women's open final against Vivien Lee last Monday at the PIC tennis courts. Arriola needed three sets and two days (because of rain delay) to beat Lee, 6-4, 3-6, 6-4, on Tuesday at the Hyatt Regency Saipan tennis courts.



Ji Hoon Heo in action against Russell Buenaventura in the men's open semis of the 27th DFS Micronesian Tennis Championships last Sunday at the Pacific Islands Club tennis courts. Heo beat Buenaventura, 6-2, 6-0, and then wrapped up the championship after his finals opponent, Jeff Race, begged off from playing in the finals due to illness.



Hector Benitez extends for a play in the ball in his men's 4.0 semifinal match against James Camacho last Sunday at the PIC tennis courts.



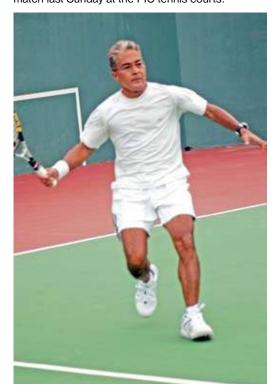
Russell Buenaventura serves to Hi Hoon Heo in their men's open semis match last Sunday at the PIC tennis courts.



James Camacho whips a backhand return to Hector Benitez in the semis of the men's 4.0 last Sunday at the PIC tennis courts. Camacho won 7-5, 6-4.



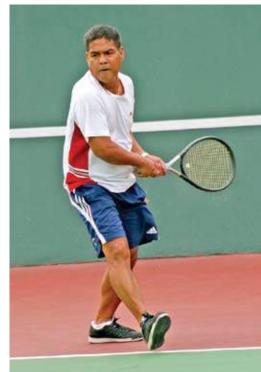
Lope Padilla serves to Richard Asuncion in the men's 4.5 finals last Monday at the PIC tennis courts. Padilla won 6-4, 3-6, 6-1.



Gabe Boyer goes to the net in his men's 4.0 semifinal game against Jorge Olanda last Sunday at the PIC tennis courts. Boyer won.



Richard Asuncion awaits the service of Lope Padilla in the men's 4.5 finals last Monday at the PIC tennis courts



Jorge Olanda prepares to return a shot by Gabe Boyer in their men's 4.0 semifinal game last Sunday at the PIC tennis courts.



Vivien Lee awaits the service of Mayuko Arriola in Day 1 of their women's open final at the PIC tennis courts.



MASC thanks sponsors of spearfishing tourney Marianas Apnea Spearfishing Club president Morito Asai the other day

who made the 2nd Annual Spearfishing Tournament a success.

Saipan Tribune Sports

Boston takes 3-2 lead in Eastern **Conference finals**

Ray Allen found his shooting touch just in time to put the Boston Celtics within one win of the NBA finals for the first time since the original Big Three.



44 FRIDAY, MAY 30, 2008

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Finian Bombers blast DPW/P&S

By MARK RABAGO

mark_rabago@saipantribune.com ASSISTANT EDITOR

inian Bombers shrugged off its opening day loss to defending champion Office of Public Auditor by thrashing

Department of Public Works/ Procurement & Supply, 113-71, in the continuation of the PTI Inter-Government

Wednesday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

The cagers from Saipan's neighboring island exploded from the gates, burying an overmatched DPW/P&S team under an avalanche of points to take command and never looked back.

Tinian led throughout the game, establishing leads of 20 or more points before settling on the 32-point winning margin.

respectively. J.R. Reyes, Peter Manglona, Jess Stole, and Julian Aquiningoc also finished in double figures for the now 1-1 win loss team.

DPW/P&S, which dropped to 0-2 in the standings, was paced by the 20

> points apiece of Oscar Masga and Herman Tudela.

In the first game, Department of Community and Business Basketball League Cultural Affairs groped for form in the first three quarters against a

younger and faster Bank of Guam team before rallying in the payoff period for a 92-87 victory.

With former national players James Villacrusis, James Lee, and Gus Palacios leading the way, Bank of Guam enjoyed leads of 25-19, 41-37, and 58-44 in the first three quarters of the ballgame.

DCCA, however, buckled down to Ton Borja and John Santos led the work in the final 10 minutes of the conmacho and Taj Van Buren plus sparkplug Elias Rangamar made their presence felt on both offense and defense to turn the tables on Bank of Guam.

They went on to outscore their opponents, 48-29, in the payoff period to leave with the five-point win.

Van Buren torched the nets with a game-high 37 points, while Rangamar and Camacho chipped in 17 and 16 markers, respectively.

The win allowed DCCA to level its win-loss card to 1-1 in a tie with their victims. NMC lost in the opener to NMC

Bank of Guam won its first game of the season last Friday, May 23, when it bulldozed past Legislature, 85-54.

Jason Taisacan paced the winners with 19 points with Charlie Peters and Gus Palacios adding 16 markers each.

See TINIAN on Page 42

Taisacan, Sakisat lead Rangers past D



Ford Rangers scored nine runs in the fourth and sixth innings to beat San Roque D9ers, 14-7, Wednesday night in the Budweiser Saipan Major League at the Francisco M. Palacios Baseball Field.

By MARK RABAGO mark_rabago@saipantribune.com ASSISTANT EDITOR



Mel Sakisat was his usual best on the mound, while Ben Taisacan did his magic from the plate to lead Ford

Rangers to a 14-7 win over San Roque D-9ers in Wednesday night's action in the 2008 Budweiser Saipan Major Sakisat pitched seven innings and reg-

istered seven strikeouts in outplaying the trio of D-9ers pitchers brought to face him and the rest of the Rangers' batters.

Taisacan, meanwhile, was simply spectacular from the batter's box, turning the game around with four RBIs in the third and fourth innings on back-to-back

See TAISACAN on Page 42

Manny to Maui Bike Race set for next month

By MARK RABAGO

mark_rabago@saipa

Manny Sitchon needs the community's help and this coming June the veteran triathlete will hold a road and mountain bike race to help fundraise for his trip to Maui in October where he will compete in the 2008 XTERRA World Championships.

Dubbed the Manny to Maui Bike Race, the event will be in either June 22 or 29 and will start at Micro Beach inside the American Memorial Park.

According to Sitchon, both road and mountain bike participants will have a slow pace group start and head toward the AMP traffic light before turning north. Upon reaching the Saipan Ice and Water traffic light, a signal will be given to officially start

Road bikers will head toward Suicide Cliff then down to Bird Island



Manny Sitchon poses with Taga Inc. president Wolf Mojica during the awards banquet of the 7th Annual XTERRA Saipan Championship last May 8 at the

Pacific Islands Club.

Lookout, Grotto, Banzai Cliff, and back to Micro Beach for the finish.

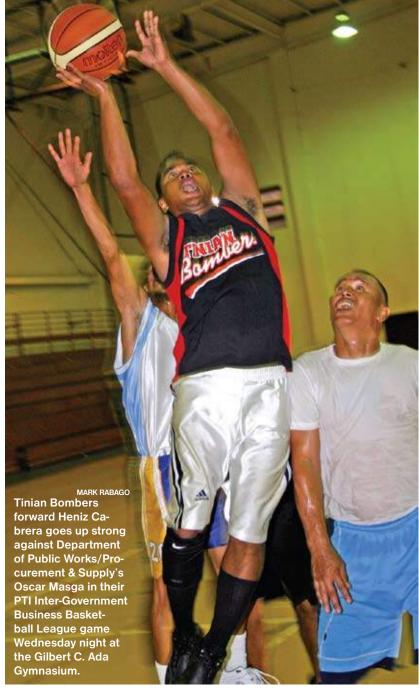
Mountain bikers, meanwhile, will head toward the Last Command Post in Marpi, turn left to Banzai Cliff, and back to Micro Beach for the end of the race.

Sitchon said cycling jerseys will be given away to all participants. He also promised that a raffle will be held at the conclusion of the race where inkind donations will be given away to the lucky cyclists.

He said he is organizing the Manny to Maui Bike Race to help defray the costs of transportation and hotel accommodation during his stint in the 2008 XTERRA World Championships set for Oct. 26.

The XTERRA World Championship is limited to top 500 qualifiers from different XTERRA triathlon series of races, including the XTERRA Saipan Cham-

education, among others. See MANNY on Page 42



80-100 'expected' for Chamber golf tourney

By MARK RABAGO

mark_rabago@saipantribune.com ASSISTANT EDITOR



Organizers behind the Inaugural Saipan Chamber of Commerce Golf for a great

turnout for the event set for tomorrow at the Laolao Bay Golf Resort west course.

Chamber president James T. Arenovski said the business organization is hoping that the local fundraiser attracts "between 80 and 100 golfers."

He said proceeds from Arenovski the golf tournament are slated for the educational efforts the Chamber is involved with, including the educational scholarship fund, employment workshops, and adult basic

The Inaugural Saipan Chamber of

Commerce Golf Tournament will use a two-person, best-ball format and show time is at 6:30am with shotgun start at 7:30am.

Up for grabs are championships in the Low Gross and Low Net (Double Tournament is hoping Peoria) categories. Winners in the two

divisions get to take home \$500 each, while runnersup don't go empty handed with cash prizes of \$300 (second place) and \$200 (third place) for each of the two categories.

Arenovski earlier invited golf pros and weekend warriors to take part in the inaugural competition.

"We are having our first Chamber Golf Tournament. It is a twoperson, best-ball format, so it is for players of all skill levels. If you haven't played in a while, this is your chance to play and

have some fun. Thanks to those who have See 80-100 on Page 42